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THE WHOLE FORMING A
MORAL and COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM
OF
HISTORICAL INFORMATION,
FOR THE
Amusement and Instruction of the young Nobility
of both Sexes.

BATH: PRINTED BY S. HAZARD;
FOR G. RILEY, STATIONER, LUDGATE-STREET,
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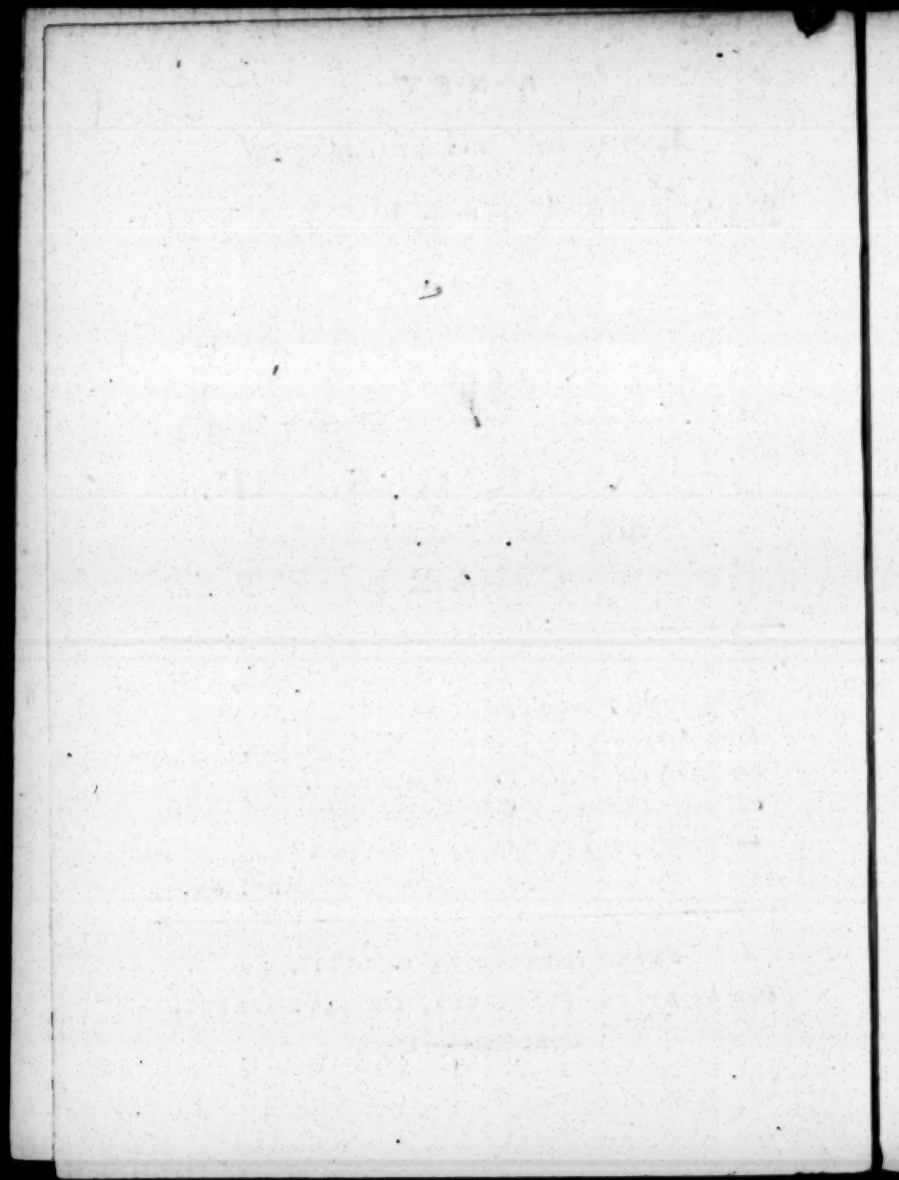
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A NEW
Biographical and Chronological
HISTORY OF ENGLAND,
FROM
The earliest Accounts to the present Time;
INCLUDING,
The LIFE of our present most Gracious Sovereign
G E O R G E III.
And her most Amiable Majesty
QUEEN CHARLOTTE.

*“Remember, O my Friends, the Laws, the Rights,
The gen’rous Plan of Pow’r, deliver’d down,
From Age to Age, by your renown’d Forefathers,
(So dearly bought, the Price of so much Blood)
Oh, never let them perish in your Hands!
But piously transmit them to your Children.”*

ADDISON.

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I N D E X.

PREFACE	PAGE.
Britains under the Romans	1
Chronology of the Roman Government	11
Saxon Heptarchy	61
Chronology of ditto	23
Church Affairs	24

MONARCHS OF ENGLAND, OF THE SAXON LINE.

Egbert	27
Ethelwulf	29
Ethelbald	30
Ethelbert	32
Ethelred	33
Alfred	35
Edward the Elder	37
Alhelfton	38
Edmund	40
Edred	41
Edwy	43
Edgar	44
Edward the Martyr	46
Ethelred II.	47
Edmund	

vi I N D E X.

Edmund Ironside	_____	_____	49
Chronology of the Saxon Monarchy	_____	_____	51

DANISH KINGS.

Canute the Great	_____	_____	55
Harold	_____	_____	57
Hardicanute	_____	_____	58
Edward the Confessor	_____	_____	60
Harold II.	_____	_____	61
Chronology of the Danish Government	_____	_____	63
William the Conqueror	_____	_____	65
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	67
William Rufus	_____	_____	70
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	72
Henry I.	_____	_____	74
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	76
Stephen	_____	_____	79
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	81
Henry II.	_____	_____	83
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	85
Richard I.	_____	_____	88
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	90
John	_____	_____	93
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	95
Henry III.	_____	_____	97
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	99
		Edward	

49	Edward I.	_____	_____	102
51	Chronology of ditto		_____	104
	Edward II.	_____	—	107
	Chronology of ditto		_____	107
55	Edward III.	_____	_____	111
57	Chronology of ditto	—	—	113
58	Richard II.	_____	—	117
60	Chronology of ditto		_____	111
61	Henry IV.	_____	—	123
63	Chronology of ditto	—	_____	125
65	Henry V.	_____	—	127
67	Chronology of ditto	—	_____	128
70	Henry VI.	_____	—	129
72	Chronology of ditto	—	_____	132
74	Edward IV.	_____	—	134
76	Chronology of ditto	—	—	136
79	Edward V.	—	_____	139
81	Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	141
83	Richard III.	_____	—	143
85	Chronology of ditto	—	_____	145
88	Henry VII.	_____	—	148
90	Chronology of ditto		_____	150
93	Henry VIII.	_____	—	153
95	Chronology of ditto		_____	155
97	Edward VI.	_____	—	158
99	Chronology of ditto	—	_____	160
ward				Mary

viii I N D E X.

Mary	_____	_____	162
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	164
Elizabeth	_____	_____	166
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	168
James I.	_____	_____	170
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	172
Charles I.	_____	_____	175
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	177
Oliver Cromwell	_____	_____	180
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	182
Charles II.	_____	_____	185
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	187
James II.	_____	_____	189
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	191
William and Mary	_____	_____	193
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	195
_____ of William	_____	_____	196
Anne	_____	_____	198
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	200
George I.	_____	_____	202
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	204
George II.	_____	_____	207
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	209
George III.	_____	_____	211
Chronology of ditto	_____	_____	213
Queen Charlotte	_____	_____	217

PREFACE.

P R E F A C E.

AN acquaintance with the history of our own country being allowed of the utmost importance—in order to understand it more clearly we shall just prefix a short sketch of its constitution.

THE excellence of our government has, amidst a variety of foreign disturbances and domestic feuds, raised this country to the pinnacle of glory; and formed a state that is equally the envy and admiration of surrounding nations.

‡ B

THE

THE three great forms of government are the monarchical, which vests the sole power in the sovereign; the aristocratical, which confers it on the nobility; and the democratical, which gives it to the people. Although each of these possesses perfections peculiar to itself, yet they are all liable to material inconveniences. It has, therefore, been a confessed axiom with politicians, that a government formed of the whole, and digested with wisdom, would make the most perfect constitution that human nature could desire.

THE welfare of the people being the final end of all good government, it is no wonder that benevolent legislators should exert their faculties to compose a system of laws that might prove the greatest blessing to their fellow creatures. Thus has arisen the various systems of state which have done greater credit to the heart than to the head of their authors. Constitutions have been formed which were too pure
for

for the government of human nature : but, if there be a system that deserved adoption, it is the constitution of England. It was formed equally to controul the prejudices as well as the vices inherent to mankind. The authors supposing that the people, lords, and sovereign, were equally liable to error, have wisely given a power to check and correct each others actions whenever they should deviate from the principles that tend to promote national welfare. It is by this property that the abuses in other governments are remedied. The arbitrary power of the French, the insolent pride of the nobility, and the licentiousness of the people, are restrained by our constitution.

THE three grand principles of our government are vesting a power in the representation chosen by the people to propose laws for the benefit of the community. These are debated with freedom, and determined by a majority of opinions, which are ascertained by the votes given on each question.

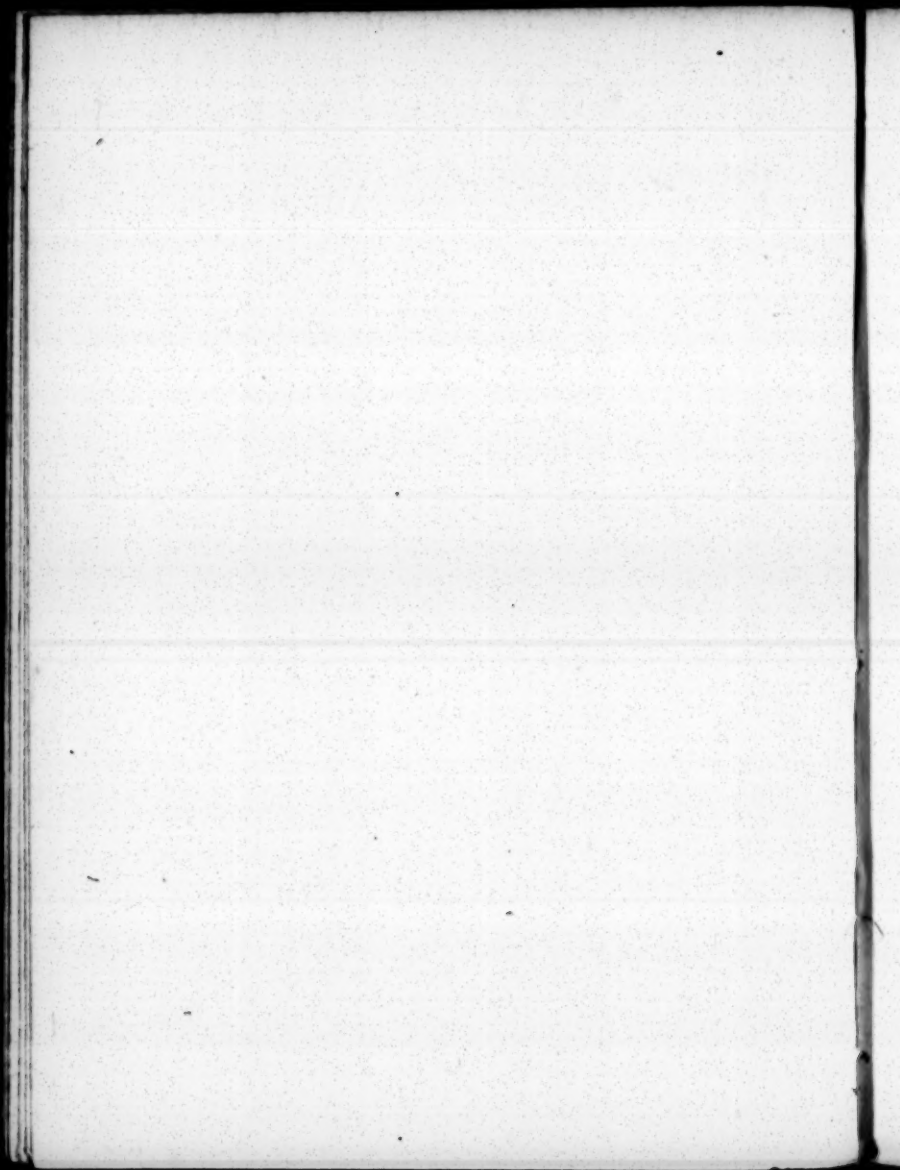
As the representatives of the people are liable to feel a separate interest from the upper house, the house of lords are vested with a power to judge of the propriety and expediency of every bill passed in the commons

BUT as measures might be proposed by the commons and adopted by the lords which increase their power beyond the limits prescribed by the constitution, or might affect materially the interests of the people in general—

THE king has the power to reject what he thinks might tend to injure his subjects, or infringe on his prerogative. Although he has the power of executing the law, he cannot make one. But as sudden emergencies might require the dispatch of fleets and armies before his parliament could have time to debate on the propriety, he can dispose of both according to the emergencies of the state. However, to prevent the
army

army or navy from being extended in such a manner as might threaten the liberties of the people, their subsistence depends entirely upon the grants of the commons.

THESE are the leading traits of our government, which seem to have been formed partly from the laws of Romans and Saxons. The history of its establishment we shall not particularly here anticipate—having traced its progress in the ensuing pages. By this it will be found that the first commencement of ENGLISH LIBERTY was when the lords were privileged by HENRY I. The sense they then obtained of their power and consequence was always preserved, even amidst the oppressions of subsequent reigns, until they finally acquired their MAGNA CHARTA from king JOHN, in RUNNEMEDE.



B R I T A I N.



Under the R O M A N S.

WHEN JULIUS CÆSAR landed on this island, he found it so divided into petty kingdoms, that he was opposed by no less than four kings in Kent. Although their territories were very limited, yet they had sovereign authority in their respective dominions.

B 4

But

But when attacked, they united their forces under the conduct of CASSIBELENE, a war-like prince of the Trinobantes. This general usurped the dominion of his brother LUD, whom he murdered. The domain was situated on the North side of the Thames, opposite to Kent and Surry. The Britains immediately resented this outrageous fratricide, which caused continual wars against him. CÆSAR having effected his landing, the Trinobantes solicited his protection and assistance against the usurper, obliged him to pay tribute, and recognize ANDROGIUS the right heir, who was then in exile, as his successor.

CÆSAR, being obliged to leave Britain, ANDROGIUS accompanied him to Rome and was slain at Pharsalia. But THEOMANSIUS, his brother, and next him, succeeded to the throne of the Trinobantes on the death of CASSIBELENE.

THE

THE BRITAINS being freed from foreign invasions, their kings reigned in a direct line without interruption until they were reduced to submit to the government of Roman lieutenants, by the Emperor CLAUDIUS, A. D. 46. Under this state Britain remained during the period of 400 years. Four years after the commencement of this subjection, London was made a Roman colony.

HERE we think it indispensibly necessary to observe the state and progress of religion in those distant ages. From the earliest times, they were pagan idolaters. The Druids were their priests, prophets, judges, and arbiters. About A. D. 178, St. PAUL is supposed to have propagated christianity in this island, and LUCIUS, king of Surry and Suffex, was made the first christian king in Britain. This happened 135 years before the conversion of CONSTANTINE. Christianity continued to flourish in peace to the church and happiness to its votaries, until the reign of DIOCLESIAN, when

when his persecutions to this religion extended to Britain, where St. ALBAN, of Verulam, suffered martyrdom among many other professors. This period was so sanguinary that it formed a chronological æra, which was called the æra of DIOCLESIAN. It began August 29, A. D. 284. St. ALBAN suffered A. D. 286.

THE Romans being obliged to recal their legions to defend themselves against the Goths and other northern invaders, the Picts and Scots were immediately encouraged to commit inroads on the defenceless Britons. Applying in vain to Rome for assistance, they obtained from the emperor HONORIUS a discharge from their allegiance, and thus ended the government of the Romans in this country, which had been subject to their power, as we before stated, 400 years. This happened A. D. 410.

CHRONOLOGY

CHRONOLOGY OF THE
ROMAN GOVERNMENT.

- A. C. **J**ULIUS CÆSAR landed on the 26th of August, at Dover.
55. **J**ULIUS CÆSAR made a second descent on Britain.
54. **T**HE first coinage in Britain.
53. **A. D.**
48. **C**HRISTIANITY was introduced into Britain.
50. **L**ONDON was supposed to be built, or rather, more strongly fortified.
51. **C**ARACTACUS was conquered and led with his wife and family in triumph to Rome.
61. **B**OADICIA vanquished and slew 70,000 men, women, and children, of the Romans.

BOADICIA

BOADICIA poisoned herself in consequence of her being defeated by the Romans.

84. A chain of castles built by AGRICOLA, from the Clyde to the Forth.
117. THE emperor ADRIAN landed in Britain.
121. THE Picts wall built from Carlisle to the mouth of the Tyne.
180. LUCIUS was the first king in the world who embraced christianity.
180. THE bishoprick of Landaff first founded, by DUBRITIUS.
205. AN alarming earthquake in Wales.
207. 50,000 of a Roman army destroyed near York, by a pestilence.
- 211 GOLD and silver first coined in Scotland. Christianity first embraced in that part of Britain.
270. CONSTANTINE THE GREAT born at York.
276. WINES first made in Britain.
283. ST. ALBAN suffered the first martyrdom in Britain at Holme-hurst, now St. Albans, for his adherence to christianity.

294. THE city of London first wall'd round by HELINA, wife of CONSTANTIUS, father of CONSTANTINE THE GREAT.
306. BRITAIN divided into four governments by CONSTANTINE.
338. Britain began to be governed by CONSTANTINE, a son of CONSTANTINE THE GREAT.
428. BRITAIN finally abandoned by the Romans after possessing it 480 years.
VORTIGERN chosen king of the Britains.
449. HENGIST and Horsa landed in the isle of Thanet.
511. ARTHUR slew in one battle, at Baden Hill, near Bath, 400 Saxons.
520. THE bishoprick of St. DAVID founded by ARTHUR.
535. ARTHUR fell in battle at Camelford, and was buried at Glasstonbury.

560. THE bishoprick of St. Asaph founded by HEN-
TIDER, a Scot,

585. CAMBRIA first called Wales.

THAT part of Great Britain governed by the
Heptarchy first called ENGLAND, or, the
Angles.



SAXON

S A X O N H E P T A R C H Y.

VORTIGERN invited the Saxons, under the pretence of guarding the kingdom against the inroads of the Scots and Picts, to strengthen his usurpation of the kingdom of the Danmonii, (Devonshire and Cornwall) which was the right of AMBROSIUS. HENGIST and Horsa, two Saxon generals, immediately landed in the isle of Thanet in Kent, A.D. 450. VORTIGERN granted them this country as their settlement. Being soon reinforced by great numbers of their barbarous countrymen, they became so powerful as to be induced to gratify their boundless ambition by dispossessing VORTIGERN of that kingdom into which he had invited them as auxiliaries to protect; for this purpose, they secretly made a peace with the Scots and Picts, and

continued

continued to harrafs the country with fire and sword until they had finally subdued it to their power. The Britons in this state of national distress and impotence, sought shelter in the mountains of Wales. In these contests *PRO ARIS ET FORIS*, the Britons made very vigorous efforts to recover their liberty and property. *AMBROSIUS*, on the death of *VORTIGERN* and his son *VORTIMER*, becoming possessed of his kingdom, collected a body of forces, with which he defeated the perfidious and ambitious Saxons in several engagements, until he was at last slain fighting for his crown and liberties of his subjects. So much had the Saxons suffered in these different conflicts, that they would have been defeated of their aim, had not *MODRED* usurped the throne of *ARTHUR*, his uncle, and thus divided the strength and connection of the Britons, who then became an easy although not an inglorious prey to these invaders.

THE

THE Saxons afterwards divided the country into an Heptarchy, or seven kingdoms :

- I. KENT was founded by HENGIST, A. D. 457.
The chief city was Canterbury.
- II. THE SOUTH SAXONS, containing the counties of Surry and Suffex, was founded by ELLA, A. D. 491. The chief city was Chichester.
- III. THE WEST SAXONS, containing the counties of Berkshire, Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, Somersetshire, Devonshire, and Cornwall, were founded by CUDIE, A. D. 519. Its chief city was Winchester.
- IV. THE EAST SAXONS, containing the counties of Essex, Middlesex, and part of Hertfordshire, was founded by EREENWYN, A. D. 527. Its chief city was London.
- V. THE NORTH HUMBRIANS, containing the counties of Yorkshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Cumberland, Durham, Northumberland.

† C

and

and the South part of Scotland to the Frith of Edinburgh, was founded by IDA, A. D. 547. Its chief city was York.

VI. THE EAST ANGLES, containing the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, and the Isle of Ely, was founded by UIFA or OFFA, A. D. 575. Its chief city was Bury St. Edmunds.

VII. MERCIA, containing the counties of Oxford, Gloucester, Hereford, Worcester, Stafford, Salop, Chester, Derby, Nottingham, Lincoln, Rutland, Leicester, Northampton, Berks, Bedford, Huntingdon, and part of Hertford, was founded by CRIDA, A. D. 584. Its chief city was Lincoln.

Thus was the Heptarchy 126 years in establishing. But being founded by ambitious usurpation, these petty sovereigns became such rivals to each other, by perpetual wars, that about A. D. 827, they were so weakened as to fall an easy prey to EGBERT king of the

the West Saxons, who formed the whole into one monarchy subjected to his dominion.

As during the Heptarchy the christian religion was completely established, we think it indispensibly necessary to give the following brief account of its commencement and progress at this period:

ETHELBERT, the fifth king of Kent, having married a christian princess of France, assigned St. Martin's church near Canterbury for LITHARDE, bishop of Soissons and the spiritual guide of the queen, to execute the functions of his religion. The piety of this prelate was so exemplary as to dispose most of the people and the king himself, to embrace christianity.

THE Saxons having been here about 147 years were visited by AUSTIN, a monk whom Pope GREGORY sent, A. D. 597, to convert them. He was
C 2 received

received by the king and people with unexpected kindness and encouragement. Having begun to exercise his mission, **ETHELBERT**, and great numbers of his subjects were baptized by him. Being soon after created metropolitan of the church in England, his see was fixed at Canterbury.

THE Britons having been converted in the apostolic age, the true church was preserved by them in Wales, from whence were sent seven bishops to confer with **AUSTIN** at one time.

THE Scots had received their faith so early as to have their bishop, **PALLADIUS**, long before **AUSTIN** was born.

THE Picts were partly converted by **COLUMBANUS** from Ireland about 30 years before the arrival of **AUSTIN**. **NINIA**, a british bishop completed their conversion.

THE

THE East Angles were converted by FELIX, from Burgundy.

THE Mercians owed their embracing christianity to FINANIUS, a Scotch missionary.

THE East Saxons being converted about A. D. 604. St. Pauls was built as their cathedral.

THE other Saxons were not converted until some time after the death of AUSTIN.

THUS, in the course of 5 years, the greatest part of the idolatrous Saxons, who were the most barbarous persecutors of the church, embraced christianity. Such was the zeal and assiduity of the pastors, and the prevailing power of tenets so calculated to humanize the most savage people, that like an irresistible torrent, the gospel spread its benign influence to the remotest corners of the island. We may, therefore,

justly acknowledge our obligations to Rome, which first caused our immerging from the most rude and furious state of being, to enjoy the blessings of civilization; and afterwards inspiring us with the beneficent principles which christianity inculcates for the happiness of human nature.



CHRONOLOGY

CHRONOLOGY OF THE
SAXON HEPTARCHY.

593. **S**T. AUGUSTIN first arrived in Britain and began to preach the gospel.
596. THE laws of England translated into the Saxon language
716. CROYLAND Abbey, in Lincolnshire, built by ETHELBALD, X. king of the Mercians.
760. A violent frost, from October to February.
774. THE boundaries prescribed by a trench between the Welsh and English territories, by OFFA, XI. king of the Mercians.
787. THE Danes first landed in England.
788. PLEADING in Court.

24 H I S T O R Y O F

793. THE monastery of St. Albans built by OFFA.
800. EGBERT, the first sole monarch of England,
began to reign.
824. DECIDING causes by oath, first introduced.
-

C H U R C H A F F A I R S .

859. AUSTIN the first bishop of Canterbury consecrated.

604. St. PAULS, in London, founded by ETHELBERT, king of Kent.

BISHOPRICK of London founded by ETHELBERT.

———— Bath and Wells founded by
INA, king of the West Saxons.

———— Rochester founded by ETHELBERT.

605. A court of chancery held in this year by AUGEMUNDUS, the first chancellor.

611. The church and abbey of St. Peters, Westminster founded by SEBERT, king of the East Saxons.

ARCHBISHOPRICK of York founded by EDWIN, king of the Northumbrians.

643. THE University of Cambridge said to have been founded this year by SIGEBERT, king of the East Angles.

650. THE bishoprick of Winchester founded by RINGILLUS, king of the West Saxons.

656. THE bishoprick of Litchfield and Coventry founded by OSWY, king of Northumberland.

663. GLASS invented and brought into England.

679. THE bishoprick of Worcester founded by ÆTHELRED, king of the Mercians.

680. THE Cannons of the five general councils revived in England.

680. THE bishoprick of Hereford founded by MIL-
FRIDE.

690. ————— Durham translated from the
Holy Land by ALDERINUS.

720. PETER'S-PENCE first offered to Rome by INA,
king of the West Saxons.

751. ORGANS first used in churches.

762. BURIALS permitted to be in towns instead of
the high-ways.



MONARCHS



MONARCHS OF ENGLAND.

OF THE SAXON LINE.

E G B E R T.



EGBERT king of the West Saxons became the first monarch of England, A. D. 827, although several tributary kings held their titles some years after. BRITHRICE, the former usurper of the West Saxon throne, being jealous of his regal acquisition conspired
against

against his life. **ECBERT** being apprized of his intentions escaped to **OFFA**, king of the Mercians, and afterwards to the emperor **CHARLEMAINE** with whom he continued twelve years until **BETHRICE** died when he was honourably recalled by his loyal and affectionate subjects. The Danes landing at Charmouth in Dorsetshire, he engaged and defeated them. Two years after, they descended again on the island, when he so completely conquered them that they never more interrupted the tranquility of his reign. Having governed the West Saxons twenty seven years and the English ten, he died and was buried at Winchester, A. D. 838.

His character was warlike, enterprising, and patriotic. His manly virtues and his conquests over the Britons in Cornwall, one of the provinces of Wales, and the Danes, considerably endeared him to his subjects whom he had rescued from the oppressions of their petty kings, by uniting in his own person the whole of the Saxon Heptarchy.

ETHELWULF.

E T H E L W U L F.

ETHELWULF, the eldest son of **ECBERT** was crowned A. D. 836. He had no sooner come to the throne, than the Danes made two successive descents on the island. He encountered and defeated them—but not until they had taken and plundered London. In gratitude to providence for this success he went to Rome and raised a tax, called Peter pence, on his subjects. In the mean time, some of his disaffected nobles concerted an unnatural conspiracy, which was to place his son, **ETHELBALD**, on his throne. But the king timely returning rendered their present scheme abortive, by resigning to him a great part of his kingdom, and leaving him, soon after, the rest when he died, A. D. 857, in the nineteenth year of his reign. He was buried at Steyning in Suffex.

ETHELWULF

ETHELWULF was courageous and religious. But in his piety, he seems to have forgotten the welfare of his subjects, otherwise he would never have levied a tax so odiously oppressive as the Peter-pence was thought—and found by the people in general; for nothing can be more displeasing to a country than for its inhabitants to pay taxes to any other power than their own sovereigns.

ETHELBALD,

ETHELBALD succeeded his father ETHELWULF. When he came to the throne, he began to behave as inhumanly to his people as he had before unnaturally opposed his father. Nothing particular occurred in his short reign except a general discontent of all his subjects to his government: but while they were thinking

ing on the means to relieve themselves from his oppressions, death came to their aid and, by entombing the tyrant, restored them to their wonted happiness. Having reigned two years and a half, he died A. D. 860, and was buried first at Sherborne in Dorsetshire, from whence his remains were afterwards removed to Salisbury.

ETHELBALD scarcely possessed a virtue to counterballance his enormous vices. Unnatural to his affectionate father and ungratefully cruel to those subjects who had endeavoured to raise him, prematurely, to the throne, he died the scorn and contempt of his whole kingdom.

ETHELBERT.

ETHELBERT.

ETHELBERT succeeded his brother ETHELBALD. The year after he was crowned, the Danes landed, unexpectedly, at Southampton, and made the country a scene of devastation from thence to Winchester which they surprized, pillaged, and burnt. They were, however, repulsed by ETHELBERT's forces with great loss. In the next year, they landed in the isle of Thanet, which ETHELBERT preserved from their ravages by giving them a sum of money. Being thus encouraged in their system of plunder, they landed, the year following, a second time in this island which they quitted without doing any damage on receiving from ETHELBERT another sum of money. But not content with laying the country under these repeated contributions, they laid waste the whole county of Kent.

After

After six years reign, **ETHELBERT** died, A. D. 866, and was buried at Sherborne.

THE character of this king was amiable and would have been more glorious and prosperous had he not so imprudently encouraged the incursions of the Danes by paying them the sums of money he did to prevent their depredations. Such systematic robbers, he should have repulsed with his sword and not bribed with his purse.

ETHELRED.

ETHELRED succeeded his brother **ETHELBERT**. His reign was one continued scene of war. He fought nine pitched battles in one year with the Danes who were defeated in most of them. In the year 870, four
 † D † years

years after his being crowned, St. EDMUND, king of the east Angles, was murdered by these northern ravagers: the place of this regal saint's burial has been since called, St. Edmund's bury. **ETHELBERT**, fighting bravely against the Danes in 872, at Basing, was mortally wounded in the sixth year of his reign. He was buried at Winborne in Dorsetshire.

ETHELRED was, by his valour, the most formidable enemy the Danes had to encounter in their frequent descents on this island—except his glorious successor, **ALFRED**. But, however, such were the devastations these invaders made all over the country, that nothing but uncultured lands, burnt churches, and monasteries, pillaged mansions, and universal dismay presented themselves. Hope was overwhelmed with despair, and every possession was the continued prey of plunderers.

ALFRED.

A L F R E D.



ALFRED succeeded his brother **ETHELRED**. Being crowned at Winchester, his kingdom was a scene of war with the Danes for nine years together. In 876, **ALFRED** fought seven battles with these ravagers, which reduced his men and finances to so low an ebb that he retired from his government to a station of privacy in the island of Aldersey in the county of Somerset. In this obscure state, he went into the

D e

Danish

Danish camp in the disguise of a harper. Having thus observed the parts where their defence was the weakest, he collected his scattered friends and forces with which he attacked and defeated the Danes so effectually that they were never able to land in so formidable a manner during his reign afterwards. He built Shaftsbury, equipped a powerful fleet, rebuilt the city of London, endowed the university of Oxford, formed a code of laws, surveyed all England, and is said, to have fought by sea and land fifty-six battles with the Danes. He reigned twenty-eight years and died A. D. 900. He was buried at Winchester.

THE character of ALFRED is so excellently depicted by his public acts that it requires no further illustration than merely to mention them, which are sufficient to evince the propriety of his being called ALFRED THE GREAT, and to prove that he had scarcely ever his equal for courage, learning, abilities, and a patriotic attachment to the glory and prosperity of his subjects.

EDWARD

EDWARD THE ELDER.

EDWARD the elder, ALFRED's eldest son, was crowned A. D. 900, at Kingston upon Thames. He confirmed and encreased the privileges of Cambridge university. The Irish raised an army against him, with which they landed in Wales—but, advancing as far as Chester, they were so completely repulsed that they retired again to their own country. The Danes, Scots, and Welch were continually making incursions—but EDWARD was so successful that he always defeated them. After a reign of twenty-four years, he died at Farringdon in Berkshire, A. D. 925.

EDWARD possessed all the qualities of his father—except his learning. To compensate, however, this deficiency, he was more successful in his battles which

he fought, without loss with the Danes, Scots, and Welch. From his being crowned at Kingston upon Thames, this town is supposed to have derived its present name which means, according to the Saxon tongue, the TOWN OF THE KING. What distinguished chiefly his reign was the recovery of the kingdom of the East Angles which the Danes usurped from the murder of EDMUND and his having driven these despoilers from every part of England—except Northumberland.

ALTHESTON.

ALTHESTON succeeded his father EDWARD, A. D. 925. He marched into Wales and defeated HOEL, king of that country. The Britons of Cumberland and Cornwall, rising against him, he vanquished them, and in 938, defeated the united forces of the Danes and Scots. In his time, lived the famous Guy, earl of
of

of Warwick, who immortalized himself by conquering and slaying in single combat the celebrated Danish giant and champion, COLFRAUD, near the walls of Winchester. He compelled the Danes to submit to the English government. He died at Gloucester in the sixteenth year of his reign, and was buried at Malmshury in Wiltshire, A. D. 940.

He was falsely reported to have been illegitimate. But these historical slanderers confess that he accepted the crown, only upon condition that, after his decease, it should revert to the legitimate children of his father: these were then minors. The different victories he gained over the Scots, Danes, Welch, and Britons, established his character as a warlike prince, who was admirably adapted by the bravery of his disposition, to preserve a kingdom from falling the prey of rapine, perfidy, rebellion, and ambition. He caused the bible to be translated into the Saxon language.

E D M U N D.

EDMUND succeeded his brother ALTHESTON, A. D. 941. He recovered Northumberland from the Danes, and afterwards, subverted the kingdom of the Britons in Cumberland and Westmoreland which he gave to the king of Scotland on condition of homage and assistance. One thousand five hundred houses were blown down in London by a great storm A. D. 944. He caused Croyland abbey in Lincolnshire to be rebuilt in which was the first peal of bells ever rung in England. He was the first who caused robbing and stealing to be punished with death. Being at a feast, he was assassinated by one LEOF, a daring robber, whom he had previously banished, A. D. 948. He reigned seven years and was buried at Glastonbury. He left two infant sons, EDWY and EDGAR, who came afterwards to the throne—but not immediately.

EDMUND

EDMUND was brave—but rather vindictive and passionate. His ideas of justice were less polite than sanguinary; for to this disposition we owe those laws which punish with death offences that bear no proportion to the extent of the penalty of forfeiting existence. And to this unwise, unjust, and cruel statute we may ascribe the many murders which thieves have since committed to prevent their being taken or discovered.

E D R E D.

EDRED succeeded his brother EDMUND, A. D. 948. Such were his frequent successes against the Danes that he obliged them, at last, to sue for mercy, and to submit to be christened. To endear himself to the monks in favour of his usurpation, he rebuilt, at a considerable expence, Glastonbury Abbey, and submitted

mitted to the holy chastisement of Dunstar, the Abbot. Thus were his exploits against the Danes and Scots emblazoned in the monkish legends. Being elated with the praises of these clergy, he was the first who assumed to himself the title of King of Great Britain. He reigned seven years and died A. D. 955. He was buried at Winchester.

EDRED'S character is chiefly distinguished for his successful wars against his northern enemies, his benevolence to the monks, his attachment to the christian religion, and his enthusiastic piety. But although he was artful, he has shewn no evidence of peculiar abilities. On the contrary, he appears to have had rather a weak intellect—otherwise he could never have been so addicted to superstition as to have become the dupe of so sanctified an impostor as DUNSTAR.

EDWY.

E D W Y.

EDWY succeeded his usurping uncle, **EDRED**. A. D. 955. His subjects of Mercia and Northumberland revolting from him, seized his dominions, north of the Thames and transferred them to his younger brother, **EDGAR**, who rebelled against him at the instigation of the Monks whom he had disgusted by the banishment of **DUNSTAR**, abbot of Glastonbury. **EDWY** was excommunicated by archbishop **ODO**: his queen was, likewise, barbarously treated by the rest of the clergy. The country was desolated by civil war, until **EDWY** died in the fourth year of his reign, the eighteenth of his age, A. D. 959. He was buried at Winchester.

EDWY not being such a friend as his predecessor, to the secular clergy, had his memory loaded with infamy.

my. They falsely imputed to his mal-administration the cause of his being despoiled of so great a portion of his regal possessions. But the real truth appears to be, that his mind, being too liberal and penetrating to wear the shackles of the clergy, he had not sufficient policy to secure himself from their consequent sentiments.

E D G A R.

EDGAR, surnamed the Peaceable, obliged his brother to resign the crown to him, A. D. 959. He increased the navy to 360 ships. Eight princes rowed his barge across the river Dee in token of their subjection. He built Ramsey abbey and 47 other monasteries. His fleets protected the fishery and commerce of the kingdom against every other naval power by which he obtained the dominion of the norman seas. So much

was

was he addicted to illicit pleasures that he killed *ATHELWOLD* for the sake of his wife, whom he afterwards married. The tribute of money imposed by *ATHELSTAN* on the Welch, he changed to a tribute of a certain number of wolves, which, during three years amounted to 900 : this rapacious creature being, thus, exterminated, the tribute ceased entirely. He died in the seventeenth year of his reign, the thirty-second of his age, and was buried at *Glastonbury*, A. D. '975.

ALTHOUGH he was greatly addicted to effeminate pleasures, he was careful to have his laws duly executed and to cause his subjects to enjoy the fruits of a long and happy peace. And had he not acquired his kingdom by an unnatural rebellion against his elder brother, his memory would have been more glorious. He was the most absolute monarch who had reigned since the Saxons possessed the kingdom.

EDWARD

EDWARD THE MARTYR.

EDWARD, surnamed the Martyr, succeeded his father, EDGAR, A. D. 975. He was only twelve years old when he came to the crown. His coronation was performed by St. DUNSTAR, at Kingston upon Thames. Before he obtained his kingdom there was a great contention for the throne between his adherents and those of a brother whom EDGAR had by another woman. The partizans of the younger pretended EDWARD was illegitimate. But this being only a scandal, the loyalists espoused the cause so effectively of EDWARD the right heir as to cause him to be crowned. He had only enjoyed his kingdom four years when he was treacherously murdered by a domestic of his mother-in-law, ELFRIDA, as he was taking some refreshments while he sat on horseback at Corfe castle

castle, where he had called on a visit to this base woman who had caused him to be assassinated, that her son might come to the throne. His death happened in the sixteenth year of his age, A. D. 979. He was first buried at Wareham in Dorsetshire, and afterwards removed to Shaftsbury.

He was a prince of great prowess and possessed an admirable disposition. But, however, like beautiful blossoms, he fell before the fruit of his amiable actions could be enjoyed by his subjects.

E T H E L R E D II.

E T H E L R E D, surnamed the Unready, son to E L F R I D A, by E D G A R, was crowned at Kingston upon Thames, by D U N S T A R, A. D. 979. He took the first coronation oath in England, and first instituted Jurics.

Juries. The Danes invading the kingdom, he paid them ten thousand pounds for their peaceable departure. At last these depredators became so exorbitant that forty-eight thousand pounds were paid them under the title of **DANEGETT**, which was raised upon the subject. Weary of these exactions, he conspired with the English to kill all the Danes who were slaughtered on **St. BRICE's** night, A. D. 1012. In the ravages of the Danes Oxford was destroyed and all studies ceased there for above one hundred years. **SWAIN**, King of Denmark, landed on the coast of Devon to revenge the slaughter of his countrymen. **ETHELRED** to avoid his vengeance fled to his brother-in-law, the Duke of Normandy, and left his subjects a defenceless prey to the mercy of the Danish Tyrant. **SWAIN** was, however, killed at Thetford. His son **CANUTE**, was proclaimed king; but, in consequence of **ETHELRED's** return he left England. **CANUTE** returned and this pusillanimous king declined to fight him. After an unquiet and inglorious reign of thirty-five years, he died and was buried at St. Pauls, A. D. 1016.

ETHELRED

ETHELRED having more conspicuous views than presumed virtues, we think it unnecessary to emblazon a character which can derive no advantage from its publicity.

E D M U N D I R O N S I D E.

EDMUND II. surnamed Ironside, succeeded his father ETHELRED, A. D. 1016. He gained two complete victories over CANUTE and forced him to raise the siege of London. But afterwards being betrayed by EDRIC, his affairs became more adverse. He, however, headed a considerable army in Gloucestershire, where CANUTE and him agreed to decide the contest by single combat: each chief being charmed with the others valour, they dropt their swords and divided between them a kingdom which neither, from

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his

his prowess, deserved to lose. Notwithstanding this partition of domain, EDMUND was basely assassinated by the contrivance of EDRIC in the year 1017, and the first of his reign. He was buried at Glastonbury.

EDMUND II. was a patriotic king, an intrepid warrior, and a generous enemy: the manner in which he resigned a part of his kingdom, rather than subject his country to a continuance of war, endeared him as much to his people as it has rendered him the admiration of posterity: for having shewn that this conduct did not arise from personal fear, it was received as a liberal sacrifice to public welfare.



CHRONOLOGY.

C H R O N O L O G Y O F T H E
S A X O N M O N A R C H Y.

840. **T**HE Picts entirely destroyed by the Scots.
853. **T**YTHES of all England granted to the church
by **ETHELWULF**.
856. **T**HE English crown first disposed of by **WILL**.
862. **W**INCHESTER burnt by the Danes.
867. **T**HE monasteries ravaged by the Danes.
879. **S**HAFTSBURY built by **ALFRED**.
886. **S**HIPS first built to secure the coasts from invasion.
— **T**HE city of London rebuilt.
— **L**EARNING restored at the university of Oxford.

- ALFRED the first earl created by his brother and predecessor, ETHELRED.
- 890. THE kingdom divided into counties, hundreds, and tithings.
- BRICK and stone first used in building. Time calculated by wax candles marked.
- 897. A plague happened which caused great desolation among the most distinguished inhabitants.
- 900. ALTHESTAN, the grandson of ALFRED created knight, and was the first who enjoyed this title in England.
- ENGLAND first surveyed.
- 905. WELLS made the see of a bishop.
- 924. NOTTINGHAM built.
- 937. A severe frost which began December 22, and continued 120 days.
- THE bible translated into the Saxon.
- COLEBRAND, the Danish giant, killed by Guy, earl of Warwick.

944. ONE thousand five hundred houses blown down in London by a storm.
945. THE first tunable bells hung in England were this year in Croyland abbey.
946. STEALING first punished with death.
955. EDRED enjoyed the honour of being the first who was styled, King of Great Britain.
959. THE royal navy encreased to 360 ships.
960. LAWS to prevent excessive drinking.
- WOLFE's heads made a tribute.
- EIGHT tributary princes rowed EDGAR in the river Dee.
979. THE first coronation oath taken in England.
- JURIES instituted.
982. A fire destroyed the king's palace and a great part of London.
991. THE land tax first levied.
- ARITHMETIC first taught in England.
999. DANEGELT first levied to bribe the Danes to leave the kingdom.

1002. NOVEMBER 13, a general massacre of the
Danes began at Welwyn in Hertfordshire.
1012. OXFORD destroyed by the Danes.
- THE priests first inhibited from marrying.
1014. SELLING English children and kindred to
Ireland prohibited.



D A N I S H K I N G S.

C A N U T E T H E G R E A T.



CANUTE was crowned in London, A. D. 1017. His first regal act was exemplary for its justice, having caused the assassins of EDMUND, his predecessor, to be publicly executed. EDRIC, the traitor, who had by his plot of regicide, advanced him to the throne,

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he advanced to the gallows, which he so justly deserved. The number of Danish troops whom he kept, cost the nation in one year, near one hundred thousand pounds. Having subdued Norway and Sweden, he took the title of King of England, Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. To endear himself to the English he divided all offices of trust, honour, and emolument equally with his countrymen, and married EMMA, the widow of ETHELRED. He died at Shaftsbury in the nineteenth year of his reign, A. D. 1036, and was buried at Winchester.

CANUTE was a great warrior and a wise monarch. But what gained him chiefly the love and praise of his people, was his love of justice and friendship to the church, which he considerably benefited by repairing former damages, exciting new foundations, and giving his temporal sanction to several excellent ecclesiastical institutions.

HAROLD

H A R O L D.

HAROLD, surnamed Harefoot, succeeded his father CANUTE, A. D. 1036. He was not crowned without great opposition. The English were more inclined to the children of their own king, ETHELRED while the Danish subjects naturally adhered to HARDICANUTE, the son of CANUTE by EMMA. But while these two parties were disputing, the party of HAROLD prevailed in his favour. His coronation was immediately celebrated at Oxford. ALFRED, a son of ETHELRED'S, earl GOODWIN caused to be murdered at Guilford in Surry. EDWARD, another son, had the good fortune to escape into Normandy. Queen EMMA, being banished, went and resided at Bruges, in Flanders. Nothing more memorable occurred in this reign, which continued only three years, when HAROLD died at Oxford and was buried at Winchester, A. D. 1040.

THE

THE reign of HAROLD was so short, and not distinguished for any remarkable transactions, that we have no opportunity of tracing either his public or private character. What has most particularized him was his uncommon swiftness of foot, by which he obtained the surname of Harefoot.

H A R D I C A N U T E.

HARDICANUTE, the lawful son of CANUTE, by EMMA the widow of ETHELRED, was crowned A. D. 1039. He caused a heavy tax to be imposed on the English to destroy the expences of a Danish fleet. Nothing happened to distinguish his short reign more than by his death, these insolent, barbarous, and tyrannical Danes were banished the kingdom for ever. In memory of which happy event, the festival of HOCK-TIDE

was

was established and celebrated annually with every sport, pastime, and exercise that characterize the holidays of this country. It was called Hock-tide from the word meaning in the Saxon language, a time of scorning or triumphing. Such were the oppressions of this country—that each English house was obliged to support one Dane in luxury and idleness: this drone who lived upon the honest labour and just property of the natives, was called by the English, LORD DANE; from whence we frequently read of Lordane being used to signify an idle fellow. The Danes frequently killing the English while they drank, the natives used to pledge themselves to guard each other while they were necessarily obliged to satisfy their thirst: thus arose the custom retained at present of pledging.

EDWARD

EDWARD THE CONFESSOR.

EDWARD, from his piety, surnamed the Confessor, came to the crown A. D. 1042. He stripped his mother of all her possessions and caused her, on suspicion of incontinency to be tried by the FIERY ORDEAL. He banished earl GOODWIN and his sons. He sent his wife to the same nunnery in which his mother was confined. WILLIAM, duke of Normandy, visited England, and is said to have then received a promise of the crown at his demise. He collected out of the Danish, Saxon, and Mercian laws, a code from which is supposed to have originated our common law. He rebuilt St. Peter's church, Westminster. He caused the Saxon laws and customs to be written in Latin, and was the first who pretended to cure the king's evil by a touch. He died in the twenty-third year of his reign, and was buried at Westminster, A. D. 1066.

EDWARD'S

EDWARD'S religious zeal was degraded by his bigotry and superstition. He was, however, a wise and learned prince of which he left a monument in those body of statutes, which are called the laws of EDWARD the Confessor.

H A R O L D II.

HAROLD II. usurped the crown which belonged to EDGAR ATHELING. His coronation was celebrated at Oxford. The chief act of his reign was the memorable battle of Hasting, in which he lost his life and kingdom, being pierced in the head with an arrow as he was most bravely fighting against the Norman invaders, under WILLIAM, duke of Normandy, afterwards king of England, and surnamed the Conqueror. In this battle seventy thousand English are said

said to have fallen in consequence of the dismay and confusion which the death of their royal leader occasioned. HAROLD fell A. D. 1066, in the first year of his reign. He was buried at Waltham abbey, in Essex.

HAROLD was ambitious, courageous and enterprising. The short time he governed he gave earnest of his being disposed to make amends to his people for the injustice he had committed against their lawful sovereign, EDGAR ATHELING. To his usurpation may be attributed the government of the Romans in this country; for had the right heir come to the throne, his title would have been too incontestible for WILLIAM ever to have laid the least claim to this kingdom.

CHRONOLOGY.

C H R O N O L O G Y O F T H E
D A N I S H G O V E R N M E N T.

1048. **T**HE bishoprick of Exeter removed from
Crediton.
1056. ————— of Salisbury translated from
Wilton by HERMANUS.
1058. EDWARD the Confessor began to cure the
king's evil by a touch.
- GODIVA relieved Coventry from some heavy
taxes, by riding naked through the town.
1060. THE crofs of Waltham erected.
- LINCOLN cathedral built.
1064. EXETER cathedral built as at present.

1065. ST. PETER'S church, Westminster, rebuilt
and dedicated by the order of EDWARD the
Confessor.

— THE Saxon laws written in Latin.

1066. A great comet appeared.



WILLIAM

WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.



WILLIAM began the reign of the Normans who originally came as pirates, like the Danes, from the North, to infest with their depredations the more plenteous countries of the Southern parts of Europe. WILLIAM invaded this country with the assistance of most of the surrounding states, and especially with a consecrated banner from the pope. He landed at

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Pevensey

Pevensey in Suffex with sixty thousand men from a fleet of three hundred sail. Having defeated HAROLD, he took Down and was crowned at London, where he commenced a reign of partial favour to his Norman countrymen, and cruel disposition to the English. He established the CONVERT-FIRE, or Curfew Bell, formed the dooms-day book, altered the Saxon feudal system, and abolished ordeal and camp-fight trials. To indulge himself in the pleasure of hunting, he depopulated the greatest part of Hampshire.

AFTER a reign of twenty-one years in England and fifty-two in Normandy, he died at Rouen, and was buried at Caen. His government was cruel, vengeful, rapacious, and ambitious. He is described to have been above eight feet high, and so strong that none of his courtiers could draw his bow. Although he was disgusting to many, he was formidable to all. He came to the throne in 1066, and died in 1087.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y O F
W I L L I A M T H E C O N Q U E R O R .

A. D. 1066. **W**ILLIAM having conquered HAROLD, at Hastings, was crowned king of England at London.

1067. WILLIAM visiting his Roman dominions, caused the English to revolt against his usurped and tyrannical government.

1068. THE tax of Danegelt was re-established. And the curfew bell ordered to be rung at eight every evening, when the people were obliged, on pain of death, to extinguish their fire and candle.

— ANOTHER revolt arose in the northern part of England where WILLIAM, arriving from
F 2 Normandy,

Normandy, reduced the malecontents to subjection.

1073. WILLIAM again visited Normandy and appeased a revolt which had arisen to oppose him.

1075. WILLIAM was reconciled with his son ROBERT, who had rebelled against him.

— WALTHER, earl of Northumberland, was beheaded for rebellion, and was the first English nobleman thus executed.

1076. WILLIAM refused to pay homage to the see of Rome for the possession of England, and forbade his bishops to attend the council which GREGORY had summoned. He, however, sent to Rome the tribute of Peter-pence.

1078. WILLIAM laid the foundation of the town of London.

1079. THE Norman laws and languages were introduced.

1080.

1080. DOOMSDAY book was formed in order to know the exact value and extent of land possessed by each English subject who enjoyed any estate.
1085. THIRTY-SIX parishes containing a circuit of sixty miles in Hampshire, were depopulated and destroyed without any compensation to the inhabitants, in order to make New-Forest for WILLIAM's diversion of hunting. The tyrannical laws of the Forest were made.
1087. NORWICH cathedral was built.
- WILLIAM went to France and destroyed the country with fire and sword. He died at Rouen by a fall from his horse.



WILLIAM RUFUS.



WILLIAM RUFUS was crowned at Westminster. He caused a new survey of the lands and a revision of dooms-day book. His avarice next attacked the privileges of the church, and assaulted his brother ROBERT's possessions in Normandy. He afterwards joined him in dispossessing his younger brother, HENRY, of his patrimony. The Welch alarmed him with
many

many incursions which he successfully repelled. His oppressive conduct enraged his barons. He lent ROBERT a mortgage on his dukedom, which was the cause of many succeeding wars between France and England, and next seized all the temporalities of ANSELM, archbishop of Canterbury. He was accidentally killed by TYRREL as he was hunting in New Forest.

THUS died RUFUS, who had scarcely a virtue to compensate his vices. Indifferent to approbation or censure, he extended his dominions either by conquest or purchase. He was a rapacious sovereign, an unnatural brother, and an encroaching neighbour. The Tower, Westminster-hall, and London-bridge being built at his desire and expence, are the only instances of his rapaciously acquired treasures not being all prodigally expended. Being never married, he left no legitimate issue. He died in the fortieth year of his age and the thirteenth of his reign. A. D. 1100.

C H R O N O L O G Y O F

W I L L I A M I I.

- A. D. 1088. **A**N earthquake in London.
1089. **N**ORWICH bishoprick removed from Thetford.
1091. 500 houses destroyed by a tempest, October 18.
- **G**REAT part of London consumed by fire.
1092. **M**ALCOLM, king of Scotland, killed at Alnwick by the earl of Northumberland.
- Carlisle rebuilt.
1094. **M**AN and beast destroyed by a great mortality.
1096. **T**HE christian princes raised 300,000 men and began the holy war.
- **T**HE first single combat for deciding disputes among the nobility.

1098.

1098. LONDON bridge carried away by a flood,
February 13, rebuilt with wood.
- THE town surrounded with a wall, July.
- WESTMINSTER hall built. Its dimensions
are 270 feet by 74.
1099. JERUSALEM taken by storm and 40,000 Sa-
racens put to the sword.
1100. GODWIN lands, the property of earl God-
win, first overflowed by the sea.



HENRY

H E N R Y I.



HENRY was surnamed **BEAUCLERK** from his great learning. Being crowned, he conciliated the affections of all ranks and degrees. He restored to the clergy, barons, heirs, and military tenants, all that had been unjustly taken from them, **ROBERT** returning from the crusades, claimed the kingdom. **HENRY** defeated his brother and committed him to perpetual imprisonment,

imprisonment, where he was, likewise, blinded. His nephew, a son of ROBERT's, contended with him for the crown. HENRY proving successful, established the hope of succession to his line. He lost his son with one hundred and forty young noblemen by shipwreck, as they were returning to England from Normandy: this afflicted him so much as to prevent his ever being seen to smile afterwards. He died by a surfeit of lampreys at St. Dennis, in Normandy, in the sixty-seventh year of his age, the thirty-fifth of his reign. A. D. 1135.

ALTHOUGH he possessed a considerable share of wisdom, courage, learning and eloquence, he was more admirable in his successes, than amiable in his disposition. His ideas of justice were more cruel than judicious: stealing was first made capital in his reign. We are, however, indebted to him for that origin of our privileges contained in the first charter and immunities granted to the city of London.

CHRONOLOGY.

CHRONOLOGY OF

HENRY I.

1100. **T**HE use of fire and candle, after eight o'clock at night restored to the English.
1109. **ELY** bishoprick founded out of Lincoln.
- **THREE** shillings levied on every hide of land which tax produced 824,000l.
1110. **ARTS** and sciences taught again at Cambridge.
1112. A plague in London.
1113. **WORCESTER** city and castle burnt.
1114. **THE** Thames dry for three days.
1116. A council called of the nobility, which is supposed by some to have been the first parliament.
1117. **THE** cities of Bath and Peterborough burnt.

1120.

1120. HENRY's son, prince William, and 180 of the nobility, attendants, &c. perished by shipwreck returning from Normandy to England.
1121. GLOUCESTER burnt.
- CARLISLE walled round.
1122. THE order of the knights templars founded. Earthquakes in Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, and Somersetshire.
- LINCOLN nearly destroyed by fire, May 19.
1123. THE first park (Woodstock) made in England.
1129. THE revenue of the royal demefne altered from kind to specie.
1130. ROCHESTER burnt.
1132. LONDON mostly destroyed by fire.
1133. CARLISLE bishoprick founded by Ethelwolf.
- AN eclipse of the sun and an earthquake.
1134. DUKE ROBERT having been imprisoned and blinded twenty-eight years, ended his miserable existence.

1135. RIVERS first joined in England, viz. the Trent and Witham, by a canal of seven miles in length.

— A council held to inhibit priests possessing wives and concubines.

IN this reign provisions were sold at the following prices.

WHEAT sufficient to subsist an hundred men one day, at one shilling.

A sheep, four-pence.



S T E P H E N.



STEPHEN being crowned, he granted a charter of distinct privileges to the nobility, clergy, and people. He then, like his predecessors, seized the royal treasures at Winchester. In his reign the barons began to feel their power and consequence which, being successfully exerted in subsequent reigns, obtained that palladium of English liberty, Magna Charta. The castles
of

of the barons and clergy were first fortified in this reign. STEPHEN perceiving the error of this permission, endeavoured to retract the privilege which occasioned the greatest murmurs and discontent among their owners. MATILDA being invited from Normandy, came and took Arundel castle. STEPHEN in these civil wars was defeated at Lincoln, taken prisoner, and loaded with irons. He, however, recovered his liberty, and was afterwards attacked by HENRY, with whom he made a treaty, acknowledging him his immediate successor. About twelve months afterwards he died at Canterbury, where he was buried A. D. 1154.

STEPHEN was more virtuous, valiant, and generous than happy, revered, or fortunate. Impelled by necessity, he frequently committed errors which he lamented, and exerted every spirited effort, afterwards, to redress. His grants to the barons and clergy were the ultimate cause of his misfortunes. His life is, therefore, more to be pitied than his conduct is to be censured.

CHRONOLOGY.

C H R O N O L O G Y

S T E P H E N.

1136. **T**HE distance from Aldgate to St. Paul's included, destroyed by fire in London.

— THE tax of danegelt entirely abolished.

— No less than fifteen hundred strong castles in the kingdom.

1137. ROCHESTER cathedral burnt June 3.

— YORK city and cathedral entirely 4.

— BATH city nearly — 27.

1141. STEPHEN taken prisoner at the battle of Lincoln, and confined in chains by MAUD in Gloucester gaol, Feb. 1.

— STEPHEN released.

1148. A new crusade undertaken.

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1152.

1152. MALCOLM, king of Scotland and son of Henry, created earl of Huntingdon.
1153. Agreed between HENRY and STEPHEN, that 1100 of the castles erected by permission of the latter should be demolished.

IN this reign appeals were first made to the pope, and canon laws instituted.

Eleven hundred and seventeen castles were built for the nobility, by STEPHEN's permission.

THERE was no regular mode of taxation. Contending parties supported themselves by plundering each other's tenants.

THERE were more abbeys built than in the hundred years preceding.

HENRY

H E N R Y II.



HENRY was no sooner crowned than he dismissed his mercenary soldiers, demolished the obnoxious castles, cried down the adulterated coin, resumed many improvident grants, and chartered several towns : thus liberty and prosperity began to dawn in the kingdom. He suffered the penance of being scourged at the shrine of Thomas à Becket. Being unhappy in his queen,

he kept the beauteous and unfortunate **ROSAMOND**. Queen Eleanor excited his sons and his subjects to rebel, frequently, against him. Having quelled these insurrections, he divided the kingdom into four parts, established the circuits, renewed juries, and raised a well-armed militia. His troubles and unnatural sons caused his death, by a lingering fever at the castle of Chinon, near Saumar, in the fifty-eighth year of his age, and the thirty-fifth of his reign, in the year 1189.

His character was valiant, patriotic, and affectionate. And, in his reign, laws, arts, politeness, and literature made the greatest progress from having his particular encouragement. Had he not been so unfortunately married, he would himself have been more happy, and his kingdom more peaceful.

C H R O N O L O G Y O F

H E N R Y I I.

1155. **T**HE castles demolished agreeable to the treaty of 1153.
1157. **T**HE Welch subdued, do homage, and swear allegiance.
1165. **T**homas á Becket made archbishop of Canterbury.
1165. **T**HE intercourse of the clergy with Rome forbidden.
1169. **M**OST of the clergy excommunicated by Becket
1170. **J**OHN the sixth son of **H**ENRY created Duke of Cornwall.
1172. **B**ECKET murdered in Canterbury cathedral.
- **T**he Irish princes submit themselves and swear oaths of allegiance to **H**ENRY.

1174. HENRY scourged for the supposed murder of BECKET.

— THE bishops and abbots in Scotland swore fealty to England and its church.

— THE earls and barons of Scotland swore allegiance to HENRY and his son.

1176. THE kingdom first divided into six circuits and three judges appointed for each.

— LONDON bridge begun by PETER COLMAR, a priest. It was thirty-three years in building.

1177. THE earldom of March purchased by HENRY, from its earl, AUDIBERT.

— GLASS windows in private houses first used.

— DEBASERS of coin first severely punished. A new coinage.

1185. A total eclipse of the sun, and at the same time an earthquake which destroyed Lincoln and other churches.

TAXES

T A X E S I N T H I S R E I G N.

A SEUTAGE—but its amount uncertain.

A second seutage amounted to 180,000l.

A third seutage at two marks a knight's fee.

TWO-PENCE in the pound for the first year, and one penny for four years after on all rents and moveables.

A fourth seutage at a mark a knight's fee.

A fifth seutage, uncertain.

A tenth of all moveables for the crusade.



RICHARD

RICHARD I.



RICHARD, surnamed Cœur de Lion from his bravery, being crowned, went with PHILIP of France to the Crusades. Having obtained in Palestine the most signal victories, he prepared to return in the disguise of a pilgrim to his native dominions. He was taken prisoner by the duke of Austria, and ransomed by his kingdom. JOHN his brother, endeavoured to dispossess

dispossess him of his crown : this treachery and baseness, he punished by confiscating all JOHN's possessions. Attacking the castle of Chalus, he was killed in the year 1199. Having bequeathed his brother JOHN the crown.

RICHARD had every quality to adorn the hero and the soldier—but possessed very few requisites for the softer blessings of peace and refinement. He was candid, generous, courageous, and magnanimous. But in his resentments he pursued rather the dictates of cruelty than the forbearance of humanity. In his reign the infamous and desperate rebel, FITZ-OSBORNE, commonly called Long-beard, raised an insurrection which was ended by his being hung in chains with nine more of his accomplices.



C H R O N O L O G Y of

R I C H A R D I.

1189. **T**HE castles of Berwick and Roxburgh delivered up to **WILLIAM**, king of Scotland, who was, at the same time, relieved from his subjection to England.
- **LONDON** obtained their sheriffs.
- **RICHARD** began with **PHILIP** of France, his expedition to the holy land.
1191. **RICHARD** obtained a great victory over **SALADINE** at Jerusalem, September 3d.
1192. **RICHARD** seized and confined on his return to England by the duke of Austria.
1192. **SUCH** was the scarcity of grain that wheat sold at the rate of 6l. per quarter.

MULTITUDES

- MULTITUDES destroyed by a raging fever which continued five months.
- Two suns appeared on Whitsunday so resembling each other, that the astronomers could scarcely distinguish which was the centre of our system, according to Copernicus.
- 1193. 190,000 marks voluntarily raised and paid for the king's ransom.
- 1194. RICHARD having been absent four years, returned to England, March 20.
- THE king of Scotland carried the sword of state at the second coronation of RICHARD.
- ITINERANT justices sent to administer the laws throughout the kingdom, in September.
- 1196. OPPRESSIVE taxes raise a sedition in London, headed by WILLIAM FITZ-OSBORN, and suppressed by the justices who executed the ring-leaders.
- 1197. ROBIN HOOD being indisposed and desiring to be blooded, was purposely and treacherously bled to death.

IN this reign companies and societies were first established in London.

THREE lions passant first borne in the king's shield.

IRELAND remained under the government of JOHN and his deputies.



JOHN.

J O H N.



JOHN took possession of a crown which more justly belonged to his nephew, ARTHUR, the son of his brother GEOFFERY. He imprisoned young ARTHUR, and is said to have stabbed him with his own hands. This unjust and inhuman conduct seemed by heaven to have caused his subsequent distress and final destruction. He lost all his French provinces and in his reign the whole

whole nation was interdicted by the pope. He was afterwards excommunicated, and his subjects were all absolved from their allegiance by the pontiff. All countries had armed against him, and had assembled a fleet of 1700 sail in the parts of Normandy and Picardy. This storm of immediate destruction he averted by the most abject humiliations. The spirited opposition of the barons to his oppressive government finally obtained at Runnimeade, the glorious privileges of **MAGNA CHARTA**. He died at Newark oppressed with remorse of conscience, and the sad prospect of immediate ruin. This happened in the year 1215, in the fifty-first of his age, and the eighteenth of his reign.

His character is too conspicuously monstrous to require the least illustration. We have, therefore, only to add, that he left two legitimate sons—**HENRY** and **RICHARD**.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y o f
J O H N.

1199. **F**RENCH wine sold for 20s. per ton.
 — SURNAMES first used.
1200. **T**HE king of Scotland performed public homage to John, at the parliament held in Lincoln.
1204. **T**HE most ancient writ of parliament directed to the bishop of Salisbury.
1205. **A** fish resembling a man taken on the coast of Suffolk, and kept alive six months.
1206. **A** second tax levied against the consent of the people.
1207. **T**HE first annual mayor and common council of London chosen.
1208. **D**IVINE service throughout the kingdom suspended by the pope's interdict.

1209.

1209. JOHN excommunicated.
1210. THE Irish again subdued, and subjected to the English laws.
- 20 Irish princes do homage to JOHN at Dublin.
- The clergy taxed to the amount of 100,000l.
1211. ENGLAND absolved by the pope from its allegiance to JOHN.
1212. GREAT part of London burnt down by a fire which begun in Southwark.
- LONDON bridge built of stone, finished.
1213. JOHN resigned his dominions to the pope, and was absolved.
- THE bishops and barons confederate against the king.
1215. THE barons commence a war against the king.
- MAGNA CHARTA finally granted by JOHN at Runnimeade.

IN this reign sterling money was first coined.

THE cinque ports instituted and privileged.

HENRY

H E N R Y III.



HENRY the third ascended the throne at thirteen years of age. He granted the **CHARTA FORESTA**. Arriving at age, he placed more confidence in foreign mercenaries than in his own subjects, which caused several insurrections in which he received the greatest assistance from the bravery of his son **EDWARD**, who completely vanquished his most formidable enemy, the earl of Leicester. During these contests, counties

† H

first

first sent two knights as members to the House of Commons. This happened in the year 1258. Seven years after the boroughs were permitted to send representatives. He renewed the grant of Magna Charta. and summoned at Oxford a parliament which was called the **MAD PARLIAMENT** : this assembly was very similar to the authority of the decemviri at Rome, both in its constitution and in its continued abuse of power. He was taken prisoner and obliged to fight in **LEICESTER**'s army against his own son and kingdom. In this battle **EDWARD** was victor and **HENRY** was again seated on his throne. He died at Westminster in the sixty-fourth year of his age and the fifty-sixth of his reign, in the year 1272, which was the longest of any to be found in the English annals.

HENRY was more to be praised for his private than his public virtues. However his political faults should escape censure as they were the final cause of the establishment of our liberties.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y o f

H E N R Y I I I.

1223. **T**HE priests forbidden by a synod to marry
1225. THE concubines of priests denied christian burial.
1226. THE pope demanded a sum annually from every cathedral church and monastery in christendom.
- THIS demand was refused.
1228. THE Jews obliged to pay a third part of their property to the king.
1232. THE Rolls chapel, Chancery-lane, built for converted Jews.

— ALL who possessed above eleven-pence were obliged to pay a fortieth part of their substance.

1233. FIVE suns appeared at once.

1236. WATER first conveyed to London with utility.

1238. HENRY attempted to be assassinated by RIBALD, a pretended madman.

1240. THUNDER for fifteen days successively,

1241. PARLIAMENT refused an aid to the king.

1242. ALDERMEN of London first elected.

1246. TILES first used.

1251. WALES entirely subdued and subjected to the English laws.

— THE mayor of London first sworn before the barons of the Exchequer.

— MAGNA CHARTA solemnly confirmed.

1253. FINE Linen first made in England.

1255. ALL possessing 15l. per annum, obliged to be knighted or pay a fine.

TAPESTRY

- TAPESTRY introduced by ELEANOR, wife of prince EDWARD.
1258. THE first parliament in which the Commons assembled was held at Oxford.
1272. NORWICH cathedral and the adjoining monastery burnt by the riotous citizens.



E D W A R D I.



CAME to the throne as the eldest son of HENRY the third, and received the sworn allegiance of all the barons. He conquered LEWELIN, prince of Wales, and caused his eldest son to have the title as well as that of earl Chester. He was chosen arbiter between BALIOL and BRUCE, who pretended distinct rights to the crown of Scotland. He decided in favour of
BALIOL,

BALIOI, whom he afterwards brought with the crown and sceptre to England. He had many battles with the Scotch in consequence of his assuming to himself a sovereign controul over that kingdom. In these he had various successes; but preparing to revenge the defeat and capture of Pembroke his general in these contests, he was prevented by a bloody flux which terminated his life in the sixty-eighth year of his age, and the thirty-fourth of his reign, A. D. 1307.

EDWARD was greatly distinguished for his courage, honour, and scrupulous sentiments of justice. So high a sense he had of this latter principle that he imprisoned his own son for an outrage committed against the bishop of Liecester. His life is distinguished for the exemplary affection of ELEANOR, his royal consort, who saved his life by sucking the poison of a wound given him by a cruel and desperate assassin.

CHRONOLOGY OF

EDWARD I.

- A. D. **T**HE Scots swear fealty to EDWARD,
1273. June 12.
1275. JEWS obliged to wear a badge. Usury restrained by the same act of parliament, October 6.
1279. EDMUND, earl of Lancaster, created earl of Derby.
- THE first statute of Mortmain.
- 280 Jews hung for clipping and coining.
1280. THE statute of quo warrants passed, Nov. 7.
1282. THE rolls in Chancery-lane given to the Jews.
- WALES reduced after having preserved her liberties 800 years.

1284.

1284. **EDWARD II.** born at Caernarvon, and created first prince of Wales, April 25.

— **THE** statute of Winchester made, which enacted that every hundred should be accountable for all robberies committed in the day-time.

1285. **THE** abbey church of Westminster finished after being 60 years building.

1286. **THE** Jews seized and 12,000l. extorted from them by order of the king.

1289. A great earthquake in Europe.

— 15,000 Jews banished.

1291. **CHARING,** Waltham, St. Albans, and Dunstable crosses erected where the corpse of queen **ELEANOR** was rested on its way from Lincoln to Westminster for interment.

1295. **THE** Scots confederated with the French against the English.

— **ANGLESEA** subdued by the English.

1296.

1296. BALIOL, king of Scotland, brought prisoner to London.
297. THREE knights chosen in every county to determine the infractions of charters and the perambulations of forests. Enacted that no tax should be levied without the consent of the knights, citizens, and burgeses in parliament assembled.
1298. 40,000 Scots killed by the English at the battle of Falkirk.
- BALIOL released. Spectacles invented.
1301. PARLIAMENT declared Scotland subject to England.
1302. THE treasury robbed of property to the amount of 100,000*l*.
1307. COALS first used.
- EDWARD was the first sovereign of England, who quartered the arms of England and France, and who was called lord of Ireland on his coin.

EDWARD

E D W A R D II.



EDWARD II. was crowned in the 24th year of his age. The encouragement he gave his favourite parasite and buffoon, prince GAVESTON, caused the first discontents of his reign by raising the indignation and resentment of the barons. Such were the violence of their insurrections that they slew GAVESTON, pursued EDWARD himself into Warwickshire, London, and
Canterbury,

Canterbury, and did not desist their rebellion until the pope interposed. EDWARD soon after was defeated at Bannocks-burn in Scotland. SPENCER, who succeeded GAVESTON in the favour of the king, was with his son plundered and banished by EDWARD, at the instance of these mal-contents. Soon after EDWARD triumphed in his turn by reducing the barons to submission, putting LANCASTER, then ring-leader, to death, and punishing others. The queen exciting his son to rebel against him, after many sufferings, dangers, and indignities, he resigned his crown to the rebellious prince. He was soon after murdered in a most barbarous manner, in the 20th year of his reign, and 43d of his age. A. D. 1327.

EDWARD possessed more good nature than ability. He was rather calculated to obey than to govern. Being easy to persuade and too susceptible of imposition, he fell a melancholy sacrifice to his perfidious queen, and her cruelly ambitious minor, MORTIMER.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y of

E D W A R D II.

1309. **C**ROCKERY were invented.
1314. **T**HE king defeated at Bannocks-burn in Scotland.
1316. A great famine and sickness which continued three years.
1318. **B**ERWICK taken by the Scots.
1319. **D**UBLIN university founded.
1320. **T**HE greatest earthquake ever before known in England, November 14.
1322. **K**NIGHTS templars' order abolished.
- **U**NDER the accusation of heresy and other vices, all the knights templars were seized, by order of the king, in one day.
- 1325.

1325. THE queen and her adherents declared enemies to the kingdom.
1326. THE king and the younger SPENCER were taken at Caerfilly in Glamorganshire. The king is imprisoned at Kenelworth.
1327. SPENCER hanged and quartered.
- THE nobility renounce all fealty to EDWARD.
- THE king resigns his crown to his son, EDWARD III.



EDWARD

E D W A R D I I I.



EDWARD was crowned in the fifteenth year of his age, A. D. 1326. The queen, mother and **MORTIMER** ruled during his nonage with shame to themselves and disadvantage to the country. Disgusting the barons and the people, they were both taken at Nottingham, when the queen was imprisoned and **MORTIMER** hung at Tyburn. As nephew to the king of France

France he contended for that kingdom with such success, as to take the French king and his son prisoners at the battle of Poitiers, obtaining by treaty several provinces in France, and 3,000000 crowns of gold as ransom for the royal captive. In these successes he was particularly aided by the bravery of his gallant son, EDWARD, the black prince. EDWARD defeated and captured the king of Scotland. He peremptorily refused paying the pope thirty years arrear of tribute, which his holiness demanded. Fortune soon after changed and he died at Sheen of a dropsy, amidst innumerable troubles, in the sixty-fifth year of his age, and the fifty-first of his reign, A. D. 1377.

EDWARD III. was brave, liberal, and patriotic. But these virtues he degraded by his weak dotage on his concubine, ALICE PIERCE, who was so base and mercenary as to rob him of his rings, by taking them off his fingers in his last moments.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y

E D W A R D III.

1327. **T**HE first general pardon granted at a coronation.
- Scots invade England.
- THE deposed king removed from Kennelworth to Berkley castle, April 14.
- THIS king murdered in a most barbarous manner, September 22. He was buried privately at Gloucester.
1330. GUN-POWDER invented by SWARTH, a monk of Cologne.
1331. THE art of weaving cloth brought from Flanders.
1333. THE Scots defeated by EDWARD at Hallidown,

1340. COPPER money first used in Scotland and Ireland.

— ISLE of man subjected to England.

1344. GOLD first coined in England.

1346. THE battle of Cressy gained by the English. EDWARD, the black prince, took the standard of the king of Bohemia which has ever since been borne as the crest of the princes of Wales. THE French lost in the battle upwards of 31,000 men.

— CANNON first used by the English at Cressy.

1348. ST. STEPHEN'S chapel (the House of Commons) built.

1349. DISTINGUISHED for its corruption of manners in both sexes.

— THE order of the garter instituted by EDWARD the black prince, April 23.

— THE plague destroyed one half of the people, August 6.

— NEWCASTLE nearly destroyed by fire.

- A continual rain from Midsummer to Christmas
1351. EARL of Derby created duke of Lancaster.
1352. THE largest silver coin in England was groat s.
1356. THE battle of Poitiers gained by EDWARD the black prince.
1357. COALS first imported into London.
1362. COUNSEL obliged to plead in English.
1364. FOUR kings entertained at one time, by Sir HENRY RICARD, lord mayor of London.
1371. THE charter-house finished by Sir WILLIAM MENNY.
1376. EDWARD the black prince died aged forty-six, June 8.



R I C H A R D II.



RICHARD II. was crowned at eleven years old. The duke of Lancaster and others were chosen regents. England was greatly harrassed by the French and Scotch. The revenues being farmed, caused such oppressions as raised an open rebellion which ended when the chief leader, **WAT TYLER**, was stabbed by **WALWORTH**, lord mayor of London. **RICHARD** took

took himself the government and chose new ministers. HENRY, duke of Hereford, landed in Yorkshire, where he soon collected 60,000 men, with which he finally obtained the crown from RICHARD whom he afterwards imprisoned in the tower, the castle of Leeds, and at Pontefract. At this latter place he is reported to have been barbarously assassinated by Sir PETER EXTON and eight more of his accomplices, after he had valiantly slain four of them with his own hands. This happened in the thirty-fourth year of his age, and twenty-three years from his accession. A. D. 1400.

RICHARD II. was amiable, generous, and magnificent. His having opposed the encroachments of the pope excited his holiness to aid his enemies in the revolution. His chief failings seem to have been a want of firmness to oppose the designs of his enemies, a penetration to discover in time their intentions, policy to counteract their machinations, and spirit to have bravely opposed the daily encroachments made on his crown, himself, and his kingdom.

CHRONOLOGY OF

RICHARD II.

1377. **T**HE first champion at a coronation.
— ORDERS to arm the clergy.
— THOMAS WOODSTOCK, created earl of Buckingham.
1378. THE plague in the north of England.
1379. EVERY person in the kingdom taxed, April 25.
1381. BILLS of exchange first used.
— A great earthquake in different parts of Europe.
— WAT TYLER's rebellion begun May 3.
— 1500 rebels hung, July 2.
1383. EARL of Nottingham made the first earl Marshall.

- 1385. BERWICK castle recovered from the Scots by the English.
- 1386. LINEN weaver's company first settled in England,
- 1387. THE first high admiral of England appointed.
- 1388. BOMBS invented.
- 1391. A great plague and famine.
- CARDS invented for the king of France.
- 1397. BLACKWALL hall purchased by the city.
- WESTMINSTER hall altered and repaired as at present.
- 1398. THE dukes of Norfolk and Hereford banished.
- 1399. JOHN GAUNT duke of Lancaster died.
- THIRTEEN counties charged with treason, and obliged to purchase their pardons.
- PROVISION seized without payment for the army.
- DUKE of Hereford landed and declared his pretensions to the crown, July 4.
- BRISTOL surrendered to the duke of Lancaster.

RICHARD

— RICHARD confined in the tower, August 20.

— ——— resigned his crown. September 29.

IN this reign picked shoes were worn tied with ribbands, and chains of silver to the knees.

LADIES began to ride on side saddles.



HENRY

H E N R Y IV.



HENRY was no sooner crowned in 1399, than a conspiracy was formed at Oxford to seize him and restore the king. They had nearly surprized this usurper at Windsor. Being acquainted with their design, he collected a force of 20,000 men with which he took the field in defence of the crown he now possessed. RICHARD's partizans were, themselves, surprized at Cirencester.

Cirencester. Here some lords were beheaded as traitors to HENRY, who, at this moment, caused the deposed king to be murdered. The French and Scotch joined their forces against England. The king being conscious of his danger from a revolt at home and attacks from his ambitious neighbours, executed every act of truce and treaty to preserve peace ; but the Scots entering England were defeated by the earl of Northumberland, who, being afterwards disguised, joined the forces raised against the king. He met and defeated this army at Shrewsbury, and died in the forty-sixth year of his age, the thirteenth of his reign, A. D. 1412.

HIS vices were chiefly caused by his ambition, and his sound policy, bravery, and parental affection would have formed a dignified and amiable character had he possessed the kingdom by right instead of obtaining it by cruelty, pretence, and injustice.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y o f

H E N R Y I V.

1399. **G**EOFFRY CHAUCER, the poet, died.
— A conspiracy formed to restore RICHARD.
1400. RICHARD II. murdered in Pontefract castle,
Yorkshire.
— — EMPEROR of Constantinople visited England.
1403. THE battle of Shrewsbury, July 22, gained by
HENRY and the valour of his sons.
1404. A counterfeit king RICHARD appeared.
1405. GREAT guns first used in England, at the siege
of Berwick.
1407. A plague destroyed 30,000 inhabitants of Lon-
don.
— THE collars of S. S. first worn in England.
1409. WICKLIFFE'S doctrine condemned.

1411.

1411. GUILDHALL rebuilt.

— UNIVERSITY of St. Andrew, in Scotland,
founded.

— REMARKABLE acts passed in this reign.

— AN act to burn Lollards or Hereticks.

— ——— that no Welchman should purchase
lands in England.

— ——— that no gold or silver should be carried
out of the kingdom.

— ——— that made it felony to multiply gold or
silver, by counterfeit or crafty means.

— ——— felony to cut a tongue or an eye out.

— ——— England and France limited to the
king's heirs.



HENRY

H E N R Y V.



HENRY V. was crowned at twenty-five years of age, A. D. 1413. His wild and profligate behaviour in his youth appeared more the error of warm passion than natural depravity. He stole his father's crown while he was asleep, as a joke, and kept it ever afterwards as a serious possession. He renewed his pretensions to the crown of France, and obtained the signal victory

victory of Agincourt. Here his courage is said to have been equal to any that history has recorded. The French king being subject to a frenzy, HENRY was chosen regent and successor. He recovered Normandy and died soon after while he was preparing his forces to commence war with the Dauphin of France. He died aged thirty-four, A. D. 1422.

HENRY V. was distinguished for every virtue that could adorn the man, hero, statesman, and sovereign. He gave the most signal proofs of his courage in the glorious wars of France which he seemed to prosecute more to increase the power and honour of his kingdom than to gratify his own personal ambition.



C H R O N O L O G Y o f

H E N R Y V.

1414. **G**REATEST part of Norwich burnt.
— SEVERAL Lollards or Hereticks, burnt alive.
1415. THE battle of Agincourt gained by HENRY,
with a loss of 10,000 men to the French,
and 1600 to the English. October 25.
— SEVEN Dolphins observed in the river. Four
taken
— THE duke of Dorset created duke of Exeter.
October 10.
1417. HOLBOURN first paved.
1418. SIR JOHN OLDCASTLE burnt for heresy in
St Giles's fields.
1419. ROVEN surrendered to the English.

- THE Dauphin murdered the duke of Burgundy.
- 1420. HENRY assumes the title of king of France, on a new coin, April 18.
- KINGS of France and England make a magnificent entry into Paris.
- 1522. THE two courts of England and France held at Paris on Whitsunday, the two kings and queens dined together in public, May 21.
- A tax imposed for a new coinage.
- THE city of Meaux surrendered to the English May 2.
- EARL of Worcester and lord Clifford killed at the siege of Meaux, which lasted seven months
- THE royal palace of Sherne (Richmond) rebuilt.

IN this reign it was enacted that knights, citizens, and burgesſes, ſhould be reſident in the place for which they were choſen.

THE crown and jewels were pawned to raiſe money for maintaining the war with France. HENRY

H E N R Y VI.



CAME to the throne of his father, HENRY V. at only nine months old. His two uncles, the dukes of Bedford and Glocester, were appointed regents of France and England. The king of France dying the next year, 1422, HENRY, agreeable to the treaty of Troye, was proclaimed the king of that country. The

† K

Dauphin

Dauphin claimed, likewise, the crown and title as his natural right. Thus France had *DE FACTO*, two monarchs at one period, which occasioned that country to be the seat of war for above 30 years afterwards. In these wars *JOAN of Arc*, a country girl, achieved many victories. The vicissitudes of this reign were numerous. The ambition of *HENRY's* queen, *MARGARET of Anjou*, involved the country in many calamities which were still increased by *RICHARD*, duke of York, asserting his right to the crown. This caused several battles to be fought between the contending houses of York and Lancaster. York, by the assistance of the earl of Warwick, obtained a recognition of his right to the throne, and that he and his successors should enjoy it after the demise of *HENRY*, or on this agreement being infringed on the part of the reigning king. *MARGARET* breaking this peace, caused *HENRY* to be deposed by *EDWARD IV.* (son of the duke of York, who was slain at the battle of Wakefield) being immediately proclaimed king in the year 1460.

THIS

THIS unfortunate king owed most of his misfortunes in coming to the throne so young, the ambition of his queen, and the title being no other than that of a lineal usurpation from HENRY IV. He was beside too placid in his nature to oppose with sufficient vigour the turbulency of his enemies, who while they admired his amiable virtues, availed themselves of his weakness to gratify their ambition.



C H R O N O L O G Y O F

H E N R Y VI.

1422. **T**HE French king enlisted 15,000 Scots' in his service.
1424. THE king of Scotland ransomed.
1429. JOAN of Arc appeared and pretended she was sent by God to serve France. She relieved Orleans, and obliged the English to raise the siege.
1430. EVERY person possessed of 40l. per annum, obliged to be knighted.
- JOAN of Arc taken by the English, May 25.
1431. ——— burnt for a witch at Roan, May 30.
1434. A ten week's frost.
1436. PARIS taken by the English.
1437. JAMES, king of Scotland, murdered by his subjects, February 19.

- So great a dearth that bread was made of fern roots and ivy berries.
1438. A plague and famine afflicted both France and England.
1442. ENACTED that no custom-house officer should follow any trade, January 25.
1445. LEADENHALL built.
1447. THE Bodleian library at Oxford founded.
1448. THE duke of York asserts his title to the crown of England.
1449. A rebellion in Ireland.
1450. THE king and his forces defeated at Sevenoaks, by CADE, in May.
- CADE killed and his followers dispersed, June.
1453. THE first lord mayor's shew.
1454. THE king defeated by the duke of York, at Barnet.
1459. ENGRAVINGS and etchings invented.
1460. THE king taken prisoner at the battle of Northampton.
1461. THE duke of York proclaimed king.

EDWARD

E D W A R D I V.



EDWARD IV. was crowned in the year 1461. Previous to his coronation, he defeated at Towton in Yorkshire, HENRY's army, of whom were slain 36,000 men. HENRY and MARGARET fled to Scotland. MARGARET entered England again with an army which was defeated by lord Montague. MARGARET fled again to Scotland, and HENRY being discovered in a private station in England, was taken, and committed to the tower. EDWARD by an imprudent marriage

riage offended his best friend, WARWICK, the king of France, and the principal of the English nobility. These united, and raising an army against him, they surprized him by night in his camp near Warwick, from whence he was taken and confined at Middlesex in Yorkshire. EDWARD escaping came and defeated the rebels at Stamford. WARWICK having fled to France, returned with 60,000 men, and proclaimed HENRY king again. EDWARD fled for protection into Burgundy, while his queen took sanctuary in Westminster abbey where she was delivered of prince EDWARD, November 4, 1470. EDWARD landing from France with an army defeated at Barnet, the earl of Warwick, who was slain after a desperate battle. HENRY was again deposed and confined in the tower, while EDWARD regained the crown of which death deprived him in the forty-second year of his age, twenty-second of his reign. A. D. 1483.

His character was just, spirited, and amiable, except in his illicit amours with the wife of SHORE.

CHRONOLOGY OF

EDWARD IV.

1461. **T**HIRTY-SIX thousand seven hundred and seventy-six were slain at the battle of Towton, Yorkshire, fought between EDWARD and HENRY, who was defeated.

— RICHARD PLANTAGENET, brother to EDWARD IV. created duke of Gloucester.

— HENRY, MARGARET, sons, and adherents attainted by parliament, November 6.

1463. WOOLLENS, laces, ribbands, and other English manufactures prohibited importation.

1464. HENRY disguised, taken prisoner, and conveyed to the tower.

1469.

1469. 5000 Welsh slain at the battle of Banbury, Oxfordshire.
1470. WARWICK being offended at the marriage of EDWARD IV. landed September 13th with 60,000 men from France.
- EDWARD IV. flies to the duke of Burgundy, his brother-in-law, in Holland.
- HENRY restored to his crown by WARWICK, November 26.
1471. EDWARD regained the crown, defeated HENRY at Tewkesbury, and caused him to be imprisoned in the tower, where he was murdered by the duke of Gloucester.
1472. A plague in England destroyed more than the fifteen year's war preceding.
- ROYAL chapel of Windsor founded.
1475. MARGARET of Anjou ransomed for 50,000 crowns.
1477. THE king made a circuit with his judges.
- A severe plague which continued from September to November.

1481. JAMES, king of Scotland, caused one of his brothers to be murdered.

— THOMAS PARR born this year and lived 152.

REMARKABLE acts in this reign, which enacted what sort of drefs each clafs of men fhould wear.

ANOTHER enacted that no peaked fhoes fhould be worn.



E D W A R D V.



EDWARD V. succeeded his father at the age of thirteen. Although he was proclaimed with unanimous consent, he was never crowned. The duke of Gloucester took the young king into his power, which caused the queen-mother to fly with her next son (the duke of York) into the sanctuary of Westminster. Gloucester, by his intrigues and devoted council, caused himself to be declared

clared protector. He immediately committed the king and his brother to the tower, under the pretence of preparing for the coronation of young EDWARD. Gloucester having insinuated that his brothers were illegitimate, obtained the popular cry of Buckingham, the lord mayor, and others in favour of his assuming to himself the crown. HASTINGS and others espousing the cause of the king, were beheaded. RICHARD with seeming reluctance, accepted the crown—and, in order to secure himself in its possession, he ordered the two princes to be smothered in the tower. This happened in the year 1483.

THE character of this king will not admit of any description, as he was too young to have displayed any particular traits, and had no opportunity of acting as a sovereign.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y o f
E D W A R D V.

1483. **E**DWARD succeeded to the crown at thirteen years of age.

— **T**HE young king falls into the power of Gloucester.

— **T**HE queen and the other children seek sanctuary in Westminster.

— **G**LOUCESTER conveyed the king to Northampton.

— **A** council held in the tower.

— **L**ORD HASTINGS, RIVERS, and GREY beheaded.

— **T**HE lord mayor, &c. at the instigation of the duke of Buckingham, offered the crown to the duke of Gloucester, who, with some affected hesitation, accepted it, June 17.

THE

— THE duke of Clarence, king EDWARD, and his brother, the duke of York, were all murdered in the tower.

— JANE SHORE concubine to king EDWARD IV. and afterwards to lord HASTINGS, was obliged to do penance publicly in St. Paul's, for incontinence. She was afterwards starved to death, and died in a ditch; to which circumstance Shoreditch owes its name.



RICHARD

R I C H A R D I I I.



RICHARD III. was formally crowned in 1483. He caused EDWARD V. and his brother to be privately murdered in the tower. To secure his usurpation, he sacrificed all he feared, without law, mercy, or authority. He was so hypocritically insinuating, that he persuaded ANNE, wife of prince EDWARD, whom he murdered, to marry him. He falsely accused his brother CLARENCE of treason, and persuaded EDWARD IV. to have him drowned in a butt of Malmsey. HENRY, earl of Richmond, the surviving heir of the house

house of Lancaster, by marrying ELIZABETH, the heir of the house of York, so strengthened his title to the crown that all parties joined in his cause. He landed at Milford Haven, and soon raised a considerable army, with which he met RICHARD at Bosworth, where this usurper was slain most bravely fighting for the crown he wore in the field. Thus ended the contest between York and Lancaster which had so many years deluged England with blood.

HISTORY scarcely affords a character so monstrously cruel, wicked, and ambitious as RICHARD III. Usurpation, regicide, and other repeated murders were aggravated by flandering his mother, brothers, and their issue; projecting an incestuous marriage between himself and his niece; and sacrificing more blood and treasure at home to support an unjust title than any foreign war had ever been known to have cost the country.

He was killed in the thirty-fifth year of his age, and the second of his reign, A. D. 1485.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y O F

R I C H A R D I I I.

1483. **C**ROWNED at Westminster, with ANNE
his queen, July 6.

— POST horses and stages established.

— THE duke of Buckingham raised forces and
declared himself against RICHARD, being
refused the promised inheritance of Here-
ford, August 30.

— BUCKINGHAM'S party was dispersed, and he
obliged to put on a menial disguise to save
himself.

— EARL of Richmond landed at Pool in Dorset-
shire. Being nearly surpris'd by RICHARD,
he embarked again and returned to Picardy.

† L

1484.

1484. ANNE, the queen of RICHARD, died Mar. 16.

— RICHARD treated with LAUDAIS, the duke of Bretagne's prime minister, for the surprising and delivering up the earl of Richmond.

— RICHMOND escaping from Bretagne, went to Augers in Anjou.

1485. THE earl of Richmond landed at Milford Haven with 2000 men, August 6.

— LORD STANLEY raised 5000 men and his brother 2000 with whom they joined RICHMOND.

— RICHARD assembled his forces at Nottingham from whence they daily deserted to RICHMOND.

— THE battle of Bosworth gained by RICHMOND. RICHARD was slain in the field. The king had 12,000 men, and the earl only 5000.

PARTICULAR

PARTICULAR acts. Persons suspected of felony to be admitted to bail. None to be empannelled on juries, unless seized of 20s. per annum in lands.

No alien suffered to follow any handicraft or retail trade.

THE standard of liquid measures fixed.



L e

HENRY

H E N R Y VII.



HENRY VII. was crowned in 1487. Being an usurper he endeavoured to validate his claim by marrying the heiress of king EDWARD. One LAMBERT SIMNEL, personating the young earl of Warwick and raising forces, was formally crowned in Ireland as king of England. HENRY defeated him afterwards at Stoke, in Nottinghamshire. He spared the lives, but possessed himself of the riches of the conspirators.

Soon

Soon after this, another impostor, one PERKIN WARBECK, personated the duke of York who was before murdered in the tower. This occasioned several insurrections in Ireland, Scotland, and England. The impostor was taken and hung at the same time the young earl of Warwick was beheaded. To avoid a war, for which he had obtained considerable levies, he married his daughter to the king of Scotland; from this arose the title of the STUART'S family to the throne of England. Having enriched himself by attainting the nobility and every other means of corrupt extortion, he died of a phthisick, aged fifty-two, the twenty-second of his reign. A. D. 1509.

WHATEVER virtues of courage and enterprize he possessed, he degraded them all by his excessive avarice, injustice and vindictive disposition: for if he ever spared an enemy it was to avail himself with more plausibility of his treasures, which he always confiscated to his own mercenary purposes.

CHRONOLOGY OF

HENRY VII.

1485. **T**HE sweating sickness raged in London.
1487. **L**AMBERT, who personated the duke of York, was made a scullion in the king's kitchen.
- **T**HE star chamber instituted.
1488. **T**HE king of Scotland, **JAMES III.** killed by his subjects.
- **T**HE Cape of Good Hope discovered.
1489. **M**APS and sea charts first brought into England by **COLUMBUS.**
1491. **G**REEK first introduced in England.
1494. **P**OYNINGS law, which enacted that the statute in England, respecting the public, should be observed.

observed in Ireland, likewise first instituted
by Sir EDWARD POYNING.

1497. PERKIN WARBECK besieged Exeter.

— THE passage to the Indies by the way of the
Cape of Good Hope discovered,

1498. SKEEN, or Richmond palace burnt and rebuilt.

1499. PERKIN WARBECK taken and hung at Tyburn,
and the last earl of the Plantagenet line was
beheaded on Tower-hill, November 28.

1500. A plague in London when it destroyed 30,000
of its inhabitants.

1501. SIR JOHN SHAW held the first lord mayor's
feast at Guildhall.

— THE company of Taylors honoured with the
title of Merchant Taylors by the king, who
was a member.

1502. PRINCE ARTHUR died at Ludlow castle,
April 2.

1504. HENRY VII. chapel built in Westminster
abbey.

— THE city of London gave HENRY 5000 marks
for the confirmation of their liberties.

1505. SHILLINGS first coined in England.

1507. A sweating sickness raged.

1509. THE palace of the Savoy converted by HEN-
RY into an hospital.



H E N R Y V I I I.



HENRY VIII. succeeded his father at the age of eighteen. He married CATHARINE, his brother's wife, but on a pretence of remorse, was divorced from hers eighteen years after their nuptial. He disagreed with the pope, disowned his supremacy, reformed the religion, and withdrew his favour from CARDINAL WOLSEY. He had six wives, who mostly

ly fell the victims of his wanton inconstancy. He caused Sir THOMAS MORE to be beheaded for vindicating the papal authority. He suppressed at one time 376 religious houses whose amount of revenue was 32,000*l.* annually, which came into his coffers. But the whole, with what he afterwards suppressed, amounted to a yearly revenue of 152517-18-10. He died in the fifty-sixth year of his age and the thirty-eighth of his reign. A. D. 1546.

His reign was distinguished for cruelty, avarice, sacrilege, and despotism. Although he was the first promoter of the reformation, he died a member of the church of Rome. His personal qualities were amiable, and his mental abilities extensive and considerably improved by a liberal education. His vices were contrasted with some virtues, such as his patronage of learning suppression of the stews, and his protection of his last queen and Cranmer, from the malicious machinations of their enemies.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y O F

H E N R Y V I I I.

1509. **G**ARDENING introduced from the Netherlands.

1512. A royal navy office established. Nineteen ships manned and victualled by government.

1513. **WOLSEY** chosen a privy counsellor.

— **EARL** of Surrey gained the battle of Flodden-Field, over the Scots, whose king, **JAMES IV.** fell in the contest.

1514. **ENACTED**, that Surgeons should not sit on juries, or be employed in parish offices.

— **BRIGHTHELMSTONE** burnt by the French.

1515. **CARDINAL WOLSEY** chosen lord chancellor.

1516.

1516. So great a frost that carts passed over the Thames on the ice.
1517. THE sweating sickness raged again.
- OXFORD depopulated by stagnant waters.
- MARTIN LUTHER begun the reformation in Germany.
1518. THE college of physicians founded.
1521. KING HENRY derived the title to him and his successors of DEFENDER OF THE FAITH, from writing a book against LUTHER.
- MUSQUETS first invented.
1522. THE damask rose brought into England.
1524. HAMPTON court given by WOLSEY to the king.
- WHITEHALL built by CARDINAL WOLSEY.
1528. MONASTERIES suppressed to endow king's colleges at Cambridge and Eton.
1530. THE palace of St. James built.
1534. PARLIAMENT declared the king supreme head of the church.

1535. BRASS cannon first cast in England by JOHN OWEN.
1536. 376 monasteries suppressed.
1537. THE bible was translated, printed in English, and ordered to be set up in churches.
1538. LEADEN pipes to convey water invented.
1539. THE bloody statute enacted by parliament.
— 645 religious houses seized and their property amounting to 161,000l. given to the king.
1540. CHERRIES first planted in Kent.
1541. DANCING by cinque paces introduced from Italy.
1542. HENRY proclaimed king of Ireland.
1543. MORTARS and cannons first cast in iron.
1544. PISTOLS first used.
1545. PUBLIC stews suppressed.
— WILLIAM FOXLEY slept 14 days, and lived forty-one years after.
1547. THE VOWS of celibacy before taken by priests annulled, and the communion ordered to be administered in both kinds.

EDWARD

E D W A R D VI.



EDWARD VI. was crowned at nine years old, A. D. 1546. SEYMOUR, earl of Hereford, afterwards created duke of Somerset, was made protector, who proceeded to reform the established church in a more extensive manner. These measures excited many murmurs among the clergy and some of the nobility, which were silenced by the

the execution of some of the mal-contents. The Scotch refusing their consent to the marriage of MARY STUART with EDWARD, SEYMOUR defeated them at Muffelburgh after they had lost 14000 men in battle. Admiral SEYMOUR conspiring against the protector, his brother, was beheaded. Soon after this, the protector himself was attainted, afterwards restored to his seat at the council, and at last beheaded. About this period the reformation was entirely completed. Having settled the succession of the crown on Lady JANE GREY, EDWARD died in the sixteenth year of his age, and the seventh of his reign. A. D. 1533. It is much suspected he was poisoned.

THE progress he had made in learning, caused one CORDAN, an Italian philosopher, to mention him as a miracle. He had been, however, so poisoned in his principles that he vainly conceived himself as the source of spiritual and temporal power.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y O F
E D W A R D VI.

1547. **E**ARL of Hereford, lord protector, created duke of Somerset.
- EVENING prayers began to be read in English in the king's chapel, April 16.
- POPISH images burnt in London.
- THE Scots defeated and lost 13,000 men at Pinkrey-field near Musselburgh.
1548. ENJOINED that none should preach without a licence.
- THE court removed to Hatfield, to avoid the raging of a plague in London.
- PRIESTS allowed to marry by an act passed November 24.
1549. LORD lieutenants first appointed to counties.
- ANABAPTISTS came into England where some were burnt for denying the divinity of Christ.

H O R . F

- HORSE guards instituted.
- 1550. PEERS' eldest sons permitted to sit in the house of Commons.
- THE first journal taken of parliamentary proceedings.
- THE Waterman's company incorporated.
- 1551. AN earthquake in Surrey,
- A college founded at Galway in Ireland.
- 1552. CROWNS and half-crowns first coined.
- COMMON prayer book established by act of parliament.
- MONKS and Nuns allowed inheritances.
- STERNHOLD and HOPKINS translated and put into verse the psalms.
- 1553, THERE was so great a plenty of malt and wheat that a barrel of beer with the cock sold for six-pence, and four great loaves for one-penny,
- THE king founded St. Bartholomew's hospital, Bridewell, improved the hospital of Christchurch and St. Thomas's hospital Southwark.

M A R Y.



MARY, notwithstanding her being illegitimated by the divorce of her mother, was proclaimed queen, in the year 1553. Lady JANE GREY, Lord DUDLEY, her husband, and the duke of Northumberland, were beheaded, in consequence of JANE's pretensions to the crown. The princess ELIZABETH was imprisoned for her espousing the cause of the protestants. Several of the reforming bishops were burnt for heresy. About this

this period, Calais was taken from the English by the French. MARY fled to France to avoid religious persecution. Divine service was again performed in Latin. A revolt of her subjects, headed by the duke of Suffolk, which proved fatal to himself, who was executed with several others. MARY was married to PHILIP, king of Spain, who caused ELIZABETH and the earl of Devonshire to be released from their confinement. Her husband returning to Spain and treating her with indifference, is said to have chiefly occasioned her death, in the forty-third year of her age, and the sixth of her reign. A. D. 1558.

HOWEVER she was deluded into a persecution of the protestants, she evinced herself to be averse to absolute authority, when she threw into the fire a scheme offered to give her a despotic controul over the laws and liberties of her subjects. Her reign was, however, distinguished by too many cruelties to render her character the subject of estimation.

C H R O N O L O G Y

M A R Y.

1553. **A** Liberty of conscience allowed in religion.
1554. **T**HE church ordered to be purged of all married priests.
- 12,000 protestant clergy deprived of their preferments, and the popish service restored.
- **Q**UEEN MARY being married to **P**HILIP of Spain, they made their public entry into the city of London, August 12.
- **E**NACTED, that the queen's title of supreme head of the church should be omitted.
- **T**HE laws against Lollards and Hereticks was revived and the statutes of MORTMAIN repealed.
1555. **C**OACHES first used in England.

THE

1555. THE church lands in possession of the queen restored.

— THE Russia company was incorporated.

1556. ARCHBISHOP CRANMER burnt at Oxford.

— 300 protestants burnt for heresy.

1557. ANNE of Cleves, the fourth wife of HENRY VIII. died.

— AN embassy sent from Russia to engage England in a commercial negociation with that country.

1558. CALAIS, after being possessed by the English 210 years, surrendered to the French.

— CARDINAL POOL died November 13.

IN this reign wheat sold at 53s. per quarter.

A storm in which fell hailstones measuring 15 inches in circumference.

A malignant fever afflicted the people so much that it was with the greatest difficulty they found sufficient men able to get in the harvest.

E L I Z A B E T H.



ELIZABETH was crowned in 1553, when she found the nation in great perplexities from the unfettled state of its religion, the pretensions of MARY, queen of Scots, to the throne, and the disaffection of Ireland. She repealed all the laws MARY enacted in favour of popery. Being jealous of the queen of Scots, she caused her to be imprisoned eighteen years and afterwards beheaded. The Hugonots revolting against
the

the religion and government of France, were assisted with arms and men by ELIZABETH. With great difficulty and various oppositions, she re-established the protestant faith. The Dissenters were punished with very severe penal laws. And by her assistance, Holland was relieved from the oppressive yoke of Spain. But what distinguished most her reign was the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588 that was equipped for the purpose of sacrificing England to the cruel ambition and vengeance of that monarchy. Having greatly encreased the navy and commerce of this country, she died unmarried, in the seventieth year of her age, the forty-fifth of her reign, A. D. 1602.

ELIZABETH was possessed of many excellent, natural, and acquired endowments, which she exerted, to render her subjectshappy, glorious and prosperous. These perfections would have endeared her memory to a grateful people had she not so cruelly despoiled MARY, queen of Scots, of her life and liberty.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y . O F
E L I Z A B E T H .

1558. **M**ARY, queen of Scots and the Dauphin of France, being married, were proclaimed king and queen of France and Scotland, April 24.
1559. PUBLIC worship ordered to be in English, May 8.
- THE laws passed in the preceding reign to establish popery, were repealed.
1560. THE deanery of Westminster erected.
- BRASS money called in, and the coin restored to its purity.
- THE spire of St. Pauls burnt down by lightning.
1562. SHAM O'NEAL, earl of Tyrone in Ireland, submitted himself to ELIZABETH, who granted him his pardon.

1563

1563. THE thirty-nine articles of the protestant religion established by convocation.
- PERSONS killing or destroying others by witchcraft, conjuration, or enchantment, to be punished as felons without benefit of clergy.
1565. DAVID RIZZIS, secretary to MARY queen of Scots, murdered in her presence.
1566. THE king of Scots blown up in his palace.
- THE royal exchange founded.
1568. A new translation of the bible.
1569. 800 persons are said to have been executed this year.
- THE English commenced a trade through Russia to Persia.
- THE Hamburgh trade established.
- QUEEN ELIZABETH WAS excommunicated by the pope.
1580. SIR FRANCIS DRAKE returned from his voyage round the world, November 3.
1582. THE chest of Chatham instituted.
1583. THE Spanish Armada defeated.

JAMES

J A M E S I.



JAMES, son of MARY, queen of Scots, was proclaimed by the council in 1603. He derived his title to the English crown from being the immediate descendant of MARGARET, the eldest sister of HENRY VIII. He was crowned in 1603. In this reign the gunpowder plot was concerted and discovered November 5, 1605. The oath of allegiance was soon after enacted,

acted, and the Jesuits banished the kingdom. He created baronets. And in his reign happened the inhuman massacre of the English by the Dutch at Amboyna, 1623. He supported the church of England equally against popery and fanaticism. He died in the sixtieth year of his age, and the twenty-second of his reign, A. D. 1625.

THIS king was as much praised by the royalists as censured by the Puritans:——the first described him as a miracle of virtue and learning, while the latter divested him of every moral quality or acquired accomplishment that can ennoble the human character. As truth is most frequently to be found in the medium, we may justly conclude he was not so perfect as his adherents have depicted him, nor so unworthy as his enemies seem to have wished he should be thought.

CHRONOLOGY

CHRONOLOGY OF

JAMES I.

1603. **A** PLACUE destroyed 30,244 persons in London.

— OFFICE of master of the ceremonies instituted.

1603-4. THE present translation of the bible.

— PRIESTS and Jesuits banished.

1605. THE powder plot discovered November 5.

— THE channel for the new river allowed to be cut.

1608. ALDGATE built.

1609. EAST India company's patent removed for ever.

— MULBERRY trees first planted in England.

MAKING

1609. MAKING allum first brought to perfection,
and silk worms brought to England.
- CHELSEA college founded.
- A frost lasted four months.
- THE new canal began from Amwell in Hert-
fordshire to London.
1610. THERMOMETERS invented.
1611. THE charter-house founded.
- BARONETS first instituted May 22.
- THE London work-house instituted.
1612. HICKS'S hall finished.
1614. LOGARITHMS invented by lord NAPIER of
Scotla d.
- THE new-river brought to London.
- THE walks in Moorfields made, and the trees
first planted.
- STRATFORD-UPON-AVON burnt.
- AN inundation of the sea overflowed an ex-
tent of twelve miles in Norfolk and Lin-
colnshire.

1615.

1615. SMITHFIELD first levelled and paved,
1616. ALDERSGATE in London rebuilt.
1617. PASTIMES allowed on Sunday evenings.
1618. SIR WALTER RALEIGH executed for high
treason
1620. COPPER money first used in England.
1622. DULWICH college founded by EDWARD
ALLEN.



C H A R L E S I.



CHARLES was crowned A D. 1600. The commons refusing to grant him necessary supplies, he borrowed money by loans and levied a tax called Ship-money. Parliament still being refractory, he imprisoned nine of its members. He attempted to force a liturgy upon the Scotch, which excited their rebellion. The king consented to the attainder and execution of STRAFFORD his favourite minister. Soon
after

after the English and Scotch armies were disbanded and the protestants suffered a terrible massacre in Ireland. CHARLES having extended the power of parliament beyond the controul of his prerogative, they seized his treasures, forts, fleets, and armies, while they raised an army with which they met and fought the king at Edghill, with doubtful signs of victory on both sides. Several battles were afterwards fought between the parliament and the loyalists with different success, until CHARLES was taken, tried, and beheaded in the forty-ninth year of his age, and the twenty-fourth of his reign, A. D. 1649.

THE misfortunes of CHARLES seem to have arisen more from the fanaticism, turbulence, and adversity of the period he came to the throne, than to any particular demerit in himself. If he owed his fall to any defect of his own, it was to a tempering imbecility of mind which subjected him to the encroaching ambition of his sanguinary enemies.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y

C H A R L E S I.

1625. **A** PLAGUE in London destroyed 35,417 of its inhabitants.
- PARLIAMENT obliged to adjourn by the above plague.
- URINE ordered to be preserved to make salt petre.
1626. THE king raised money by sale of the crown lands, loans, and ship money.
- SOLDIERS quartered in private houses.
1628. THE thirty-nine articles published.
- MR. HAMPDEN refused to pay the tax of ship money.

† N

1640.

1640. AN act to abolish the star chamber.
— THE earl of Strafford attainted, May 8.
— ———— executed, May 12.
— THE Irish rebellion and massacre, October 23.
— A bill passed for pressing soldiers.
1645. CROMWELL made lieutenant general.
1646. THE whole order of archbishops and bishops abolished, October 9.
- 1646-7. CHARLES delivered up by the Scotch to the English for the consideration of 400,000*l*. January 30.
1648. THE king brought from Hurst castle to Windsor, December 21.
— A committee appointed to draw up a charge against the king, December 28.
- 1648-9. THE commons voted it was treason in the king to levy war against the parliament.
— THE king being carried before the High Court of Justice in Westminster hall three times, objected to their jurisdiction, January 20.
22, and 23.

THE

THE king brought into the court a fourth time,
was sentenced to be beheaded as a tyrant,
traytor, murderer, and a public enemy,
January 27.

THE king beheaded at Whitehall, in the forty-
ninth year of his age, and twenty-fourth
of his reign, January 30.



OLIVER CROMWELL.



OLIVER CROMWELL from a mean descent raised himself to all the dignities of a monarch, except the regalia. He rose as one of the leaders of the Independents, who had seceded from the presbytery, and had caused all the troubles of the unfortunate **CHARLES I.** Being constituted lieutenant general of the rebels, he routed the royal army at Naseby so effectually as to prevent the king ever recovering this discomfiture. He reduced the kingdom of Ireland and
was

was made its lord lieutenant. This excited his ambition to possess himself of the royal government entirely, which he effected by his spirit, intrigue, and devoted soldiery. Finding the rump parliament inimical to his ambition, he in 1653, went with some of his army to the house, took away the mace, turned out the members present, and locked the doors. He then constituted a mock parliament, composed of 144 of his servile creatures, which was called **BAREBONE'S** parliament. They offered him the regal dignity which he refused by assuming to himself the title of Protector. A year after his inauguration he died in the moment of a most dreadful hurricane, in the sixtieth year of his age, A. D. 1658.

HAD **CROMWELL** been a king from right, and not from usurpation, he had been one of the most glorious monarchs this country has to boast. But as he was obliged to establish his usurpation by cruelty, tyranny, and hypocrisy, his national services can scarcely compensate for his personal enormities.

CHRONOLOGY OF

OLIVER CROMWELL.

1649. **OLIVER CROMWELL** made lord lieutenant of Ireland August 13.
- **DROGHEDA** taken by storm, August 14.
1650. **THE** Irish permitted to serve foreign princes.
1651. **OLIVER CROMWELL** invaded Scotland, July 22.
- **CHARLES II.** defeated at Worcester by **OLIVER**, September 3.
1653. **OLIVER** chosen protector of England, December 16.
- **SCOTLAND** and Ireland united into one common-wealth with England, April 12.

JAMAICA

- JAMAICA taken by the English.
- 1655-6. CROMWELL dissolved the parliament.
- 1656. THE publication of newspapers forbidden,
October.
- THE kingdom divided into eleven districts.
- OLIVER would not suffer the French king to
call himself the king of France.
- 1656-7. A plot to destroy OLIVER discovered.
- OLIVER declined the offer of the crown un-
der the title of king.
- 1,300,000*l.* voted to OLIVER CROMWELL
as the annual supply for his government,
May 25.
- SIXTY persons summoned by OLIVER to
constitute a house of lords, December 11.
- 1657. ANOTHER plot against OLIVER discovered
March 17.
- 1658. OLIVER CROMWELL died aged sixty, Sep. 3.
- 1660. His corpse hung at Tyburn December 2.

1658. RICHARD CROMWELL succeeded his father
in the protectorship, September 4.

1659. RICHARD CROMWELL ordered to quit
Whitchall in six days, May 25.



CHARLES

C H A R L E S I I.



CHARLES II. on the execution of his father, came from France by invitation to Scotland, where he assembled an army with which he came to England, and was defeated by CROMWELL at Worcester, from whence CHARLES fled abroad, where he remained until his restoration in 1660. War was immediately declared against the Dutch to the advantage of neither power.

power. The plague and fire of London destroyed, soon after each other, the greatest part of its inhabitants. He had a cabinet council that was called the Cabal, from the four first letters of the noblemen's names which composed it. Soon after his crown was stolen by BLOOD from the tower. CHARLES deprived the city of London of its charter, and caused Lord RUSSEL and ALGERNON SIDNEY to be beheaded. Two years afterwards he died in the fifty-fifth year of his age and the thirty-seventh of his reign, A.D. 1685.

CHARLES II. possessed great readiness of wit and penetration. Some paint him as a TIBERIUS, while others exalt him to the character of a TITUS. Not to dispute the propriety of either, we have only to observe, that had he been less addicted to illicit pleasures, he had been more happy and his kingdom more peaceable and prosperous than it was during his reign.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y O F
C H A R L E S I I.

1660. **K**ING CHARLES restored, May 29.
— THE royal society established.
1662. THE king married the Infanta of Portugal.
1665. 70,000 people destroyed by the plague in London.
1666. FIRE of London September 2, when 13,200 dwelling houses were destroyed.
1670. A cabinet council formed, which was called the Cabal, from the first letters of the names of its members—CLIFFORD, ARLINGTON, BUCKINGHAM, ASTLEY, and LAUDERDALE.
1671. THE Coventry act passed.
— THE Exchequer shut for want of money.
— BLOOD attempted to steal the crown from the tower.

KING

1674. KING CHARLES received from France a pension of 100,000*l.* per annum.
- MILTON died aged 67.
- CHARLES honoured with the city freedom.
1676. MARY, daughter of JAMES, duke of York, married to WILLIAM, prince of Orange.
1678. STATUE at Charing Cross erected.
- OATES'S plot discovered.
1683. THE charter of the city of London taken away by CHARLES.
- THE Rye house plot.
- LORD RUSSEL beheaded on a charge of high treason, July 21.
- ALGERNON SIDNEY beheaded, for writing a libel never published, November 21.
1684. CASTLE of Dublin burnt, April 7.
- TWENTY-FIVE corporations in Cornwall, and six in Devonshire, surrendered their charters to the king, December 12.
1685. CHARLES died of an apoplexy, February 6, aged fifty-four.

JAMES

J A M E S II.



JAMES II. succeeded his brother CHARLES. He had not long enjoyed the throne before the ungrateful and rebellious MONMOUTH aided by ARGYLE disturbed his repose and possession. They were both, however, defeated, taken, and executed. He sent seven bishops to the tower, for not countenancing his measures for the re-establishment of popery. He was soon

foon after deserted by all his former adherents. The PRINCE OF ORANGE being invited by the mal-contents, arrived with a large fleet and army at Torbay. JAMES abdicated immediately his throne, went to Rochester under the escort of a Dutch guard, and set sail for France, when the PRINCE OF ORANGE and queen MARY, his consort, were proclaimed king and queen of Eng-land, A. D. 1689.

JAMES II. seemed destined by nature to disgrace a palace, and to ennoble a cottage by his private virtues. Not born to govern, he prudently laid down his sceptre when he could no longer hold it with safety and dignity. His rival, WILLIAM, had therefore, no honour in depriving JAMES of what he had not spirit to vindicate. All the glory that attached to WILLIAM III. was, the spirit with which he maintained his throne, and the liberal blessings of liberty he conferred on his subjects.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y O F

J A M E S I I.

1685. **D**UKE of MONMOUTH proclaimed king at Taunton Dean, defeated at Sedgemore, taken, and beheaded.

—— JUSTICE JEFFERIES and general KIRK exercised great cruelties on the adherents of MONMOUTH.

1686. THE king encamped 15,000 men on Hounslow Heath.

1688. SEVEN bishops committed to the tower for not countenancing popery.

1688-9. THE city of London lent the prince of Orange 200,000*l.* January 10.

—— THE parliament declared JAMES's abdication January 28.

JAMES

- JAMES ordered by the prince of Orange from Whitehall.
- JAMES escorted to Rochester by a Dutch guard and failed to France.
- JAMES landed in Ireland with an army, March 12.
- JAMES assembled a parliament in Ireland, April 19.
- LONDONDERRY besieged by JAMES.
- BRASS money coined by JAMES, in Ireland, June 18.
- 1690. THE battle of the Boyne in Ireland, where JAMES was finally defeated by WILLIAM, and obliged to embark for France, July 1.
- 1692. JAMES's descent on England frustrated by the destruction of the French fleet, May 19.

WILLIAM

W I L L I A M A N D M A R Y.



WILLIAM and MARY were proclaimed king and queen, A. D. 1688. JAMES having landed with a considerable force in Ireland, WILLIAM went over and defeated him on the banks of the Boyne. He commenced war with France, and with the assistance of the Dutch, conquered their fleet, of which were destroyed twenty-one of their first ships of war without the loss

† O

of

of a single English ship. In 1694, queen MARY died of the small-pox. This being the age for plots, a new one was discovered and rendered abortive, called the affassination plot. King JAMES dying in France, the French king immediately proclaimed his son king of England. WILLIAM was preparing to resent this insult, when he was thrown from his horse, broke his collar bone, and died, in the fifty-second year of his age, and the thirteenth of his reign, A. D. 1702.

WILLIAM was, perhaps, the only king of this country, in whom policy, patriotism, and bravery were so eminently united. Undaunted in courage, and liberal in his principles ; his enterprizes were undertaken, not only to acquire glory himself, but to dispense the blessings of freedom among his loyal subjects.

C H R O N O L O G Y o f
W I L L I A M A N D M A R Y.

1689. **B**ILL of rights passed.
- EVERY hearth or chimney paid two shillings per annum.
- KING WILLIAM and queen MARY crowned at Westminster, April 11.
- AN act passed to disarm papists, May 11.
- THE Hanover succession first proposed, — 31.
1691. WILLIAM III. took his seat as Stadtholder in Holland.
- THE Irish defeated at the battle of Aughrim in Ireland.
1692. THE French fleet destroyed at La Hogue and other places by admiral RUSSELL.
1693. THE English fleet defeated by TOURVILLE.
1694. QUEEN MARY died of the small-pox.

CHRONOLOGY OF

WILLIAM III.

1694-5. **D**ISCIPLINE of the church restored, February 15.

—— **C**OMMISSIONERS appointed to direct the building and endowment of Greenwich hospital.

—— **T**HE Welch copper office incorporated.

1695. **D**UTIES imposed on births, marriages, burials, batchelors, and widowers.

1695-6. **G**UINEAS went at the rate of thirty shillings.

—— **S**IX-PENCE per month deducted out of every seaman's wages for the support of Greenwich hospital.

—— **C**ZAR of Muscovy came into England and remained incognita,

1696.

1696. THE window tax first levied.

1700-1. JOHN earl of Marlborough, appointed general of the foot, June 1, and commander in chief of his majesty's forces in Holland.

—— KING JAMES II. died of a lethargy at Saint Germain, in France, in the sixty-eighth year of his age, September 6.

1701-2. KING WILLIAM died at Kensington in the fifty-second year of his age, and the fourteenth of his reign, March 8.



A N N E.



ANNE was proclaimed in 1702, when she immediately declared war against France, and chose MARLBOROUGH her general. In the first year, her admirals took and destroyed 87 of their ships, and brought home 110 brass cannon. The old and new East India companies were united in 1703. The duke of MARLBOROUGH obtained the most signal victories in Flanders and Germany

Germany over the confederated armies of the French and Bavarians. At the battle of Blenheim 13,000 of the enemy were taken prisoners, and 20,000 killed. In 1707, she settled the union between England and Scotland. In this year she first assembled the parliament of Great Britain, and in 1711, she ordered that fifty new churches should be built in London and Westminster. After a glorious reign of twelve years and a half, she died, in the fiftieth year of her age, A. D. 1714.

ANNE is described to have enjoyed many regal virtues. Possessed of masculine sense and resolution, she elevated the character of her country as much as her father, JAMES II. had depressed it by his pusillanimity.



CHRONOLOGY OF
QUEEN ANNE.

1703. **T**HE earl of MARLBOROUGH chosen captain general to queen ANNE's army.
1703. THE old and new East india companies united.
1704. GIBRALTAR taken in three days.
- THE battle of Blenheim gained by the duke of MARLBOROUGH and prince EUGENE.
1705. THE colours and standards taken at Blenheim, hung in Westminster hall.
1706. THE battle of the Ramillies gained by MARLBOROUGH.
- THE colours and standards hung in Guild-hall.
1707. ENGLAND and Scotland united.
- AN interview between the duke of MARLBOROUGH and CHARLES XII.
- SIR CLOUDESLEY SHOVEL shipwrecked on the rocks of Scilly.

1707.

1708. THE first parliament of Great Britain met April 24.

— PRINCE GEORGE of Denmark, husband of queen ANNE, died at Kensington.

1709. THE battle of Malplaquet gained by the duke of MARLBOROUGH and prince EUGENE.

— DR. SACHEVEREL impeached by the commons of high crimes and misdemeanors.

1711. FIFTY new churches resolved to be built by the commons.

— THE duke of MARLBOROUGH turned out of all his places.

1712. ROBERT WALPOLE, Esq. committed to the tower for bribery.

— THE duke of ORMOND sent to command in Flanders.

— RICHARD CROMWELL, son of OLIVER CROMWELL, died aged ninety.

1714. MR. STEELE expelled the house of commons for writing the Englishman and the Crisis.

— 5,000l. offered to apprehend the pretender.

GEORGE

G E O R G E I.



GEORGE, Elector of Hanover, came to the throne A. D. 1714. The next year a rebellion was raised, in favour of the Pretender, against him in Scotland: this was quelled the year after, when two of the leading lords were beheaded, and their estates confiscated. He made the East India company the sole possessors of all the trade to his asiatic territories. One

SHEPHERD,

SHEPHERD, a lad of eighteen years old, was hung for conspiring to kill the king. In the same year, war was declared against Spain. In 1720, happened the fourth sea bubble, in which the stock was raised to 1000, and fallen to 150 per cent in the course of a few months. Another plot against the king's life was discovered in 1722. GEORGE proceeding on another visit to Hanover, died at Osnaburgh, in the sixty-seventh year of his age, and the twelfth of his reign, A. D. 1727.

GEORGE I. was a wise and brave prince. But excited many disturbances in his kingdom, and created many inveterate enemies from his coolness to his first ministry and changing them afterwards. To this he chiefly owed the plots that were concerted against his life. But was preserved from falling the victim of their malignity by his vigilance and penetration.

CHRONOLOGY

CHRONOLOGY OF

GEORGE I.

1714. **G**EOERGE I. arrived at Greenwich from Hanover.
1715. **MR. STEELE** made governor of the play-house, and knighted.
- **THE** duke of **ORMOND**, the lords **BOLINGBROKE**, **OXFORD**, and **STRAFFORD**, impeached by the commons.
- **THE** Pretender proclaimed **JAMES VIII.** in Scotland, by the earl of **MAR**, who assembled forces in his cause.
- A part of the English joined the Pretender who landed in Scotland.
1766. **LORDS DERWENTWATER** and **KENMORE** beheaded for rebellion.

1766.

- THE India company possessed of the exclusive trade to the Indies.
1717. THE prince of WALES banished the court.
1718. JAMES SHEPHERD, a lad of eighteen, executed for conspiring the king's death.
1719. THE pretender received at Madrid as king of Great Britain.
- THE English and French invaded Spain by land, and took the towns of Fontafabia, St. Sebastian, and St. Antonio, and reduced the province of Gui Puocoa.
- THE Scotch rebels defeated by the king's forces.
1720. SOUTH Sea stock rose to 400 per cent, and so continued to rise until July, when it rose to 1000 per cent.
1721. SEVERAL persons ruined by the South Sea stock falling to 150 per cent.
- SEVERAL members of parliament expelled for being concerned in the South Sea Bubble.
- The

1721. The estates of those expelled confiscated for the use of the sufferers.
1722. THE duke of MARLBOROUGH died.
1723. WOOD's patent coinage of farthings and half-pence for Ireland, and also, half-pence and two-pences for America.
1725. THE lord Chancellor (the earl of MACCLESFIELD) displaced, impeached, and fined 30,000*l.* for corruption.
- JONATHAN WILD executed.



G E O R G E II.



GEORGE II. was proclaimed in 1727. Six years afterwards he created a considerable disgust by the general excise then established. Commencing a war against Spain, Porto Bello was taken by his admiral, VERNON. The national opposition being general against his ministry, Sir ROBERT WALPOLE resigned with all that odium which has ever since been so deservedly attached to his character as an unprincipled, profligate, and

and oppressive creature of the crown. GEORGE established his character for bravery, by defeating the French at Dettingen. In 1745, a rebellion in favour of the pretender began in Scotland: this was, after several skirmishes and battles, ended by the duke of Cumberland obtaining a decisive victory at Culloden. Towards the close of his reign the immortal CHATHAM raised this nation to the greatest height of glory, power, and prosperity, by the successes obtained by our naval and military forces in every part of the globe against the united crowns of France and Spain. After a warlike and tumultuous reign of thirty-three years and a half, with much honour to himself, and welfare to his subjects, he died in the seventy-seventh year of his age, A. D. 1760.


His character was choleric—but neither vindictive or malignant. He was brave, determined, and enterprising. All his successes were acquired more by resolution than policy, and his punishments of national delinquents were less to revenge than to deter.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y O F

G E O R G E I I.

1730. **F**IVE Cherokee kings brought to England.
1731. **B**LANDFORD in Dorsetshire totally destroyed
by fire.
1733. **S**HEME formed for the general excise.
1737. **P**RINCE of Wales forbid the court.
1739. **W**AR declared against Spain.
- **T**HE hard frost began at Christmas.
1740. **P**ORTO BELLO taken by admiral **V**ERNON.
1741. **A**CADEMY at Woolwich ordered to be built.
- **T**HE lord mayors and aldermen of London
made perpetual justices of the peace.
1742. **S**IR ROBERT **W**ALPOLE resigned after hold-
ing his places twenty-one years.
- **W**ESTMINSTER bridge finished.

1743. KING GEORGE defeated the French at Dettingen.
 — 1000 houses consumed by fire at Crediton in Devonshire.
1744. ADMIRAL ANSON returned with 1,500,000l. that he had taken in the Acapulca ship.
1745. THE duke of Cumberland defeated at Fontenoy.
 — LOUISBOURG taken from the French.
 — THE Pretender's son landed in Scotland.
1746. THE Pretender totally defeated by the duke of Cumberland at Culloden.
 — SEVERAL lords and others executed for rebellion.
1752. THE style altered.
1757. ADMIRAL BYNG shot for cowardice.
1758. A hundred French ships destroyed at St. Maloes by the duke of Marlborough.
1759. THE French defeated by prince FERDINAND at Minden.
 — QUEBEC taken by general WOLFE.
1760. GENERAL LALLY defeated in the  dies.
 — CANADA surrendered to the English

GEORGE

G E O R G E III.



GEORGE III. our present most gracious sovereign, was crowned A. D. 1761. No reign was ever more auspiciously began. The next year, his arms were so victorious against the French and Spaniards that all parts of the globe resounded with his name and conquests. To his patronage, music and painting owe such a degree of excellence as rivals almost every other country that has been hitherto distinguished for their

P 2

profession.

profession. The most important discoveries have been made in all parts of the globe, by the enterprize of his navigators. Although Great Britain has unfortunately lost America, such is the vigour of her natural resources, the prosperity of her commerce, and the undiminished courage of her warriors that she still holds her pre-eminence in the scale of European policy, which may she long sustain under the benignant and patriotic sceptre of her present GEORGE III.

To praise or censure the sovereign of our day is not the business of an historian—but that of a panegyrist, or satirist. We shall, therefore, merely observe, that if the universal happiness of his people is only to be equalled by their boundless affection towards his person and family, we may justly conclude that he deserves more praise than we can possibly bestow in the narrow limits which this little work prescribes.

CHRONOLOGY

C H R O N O L O G Y o f
G E O R G E I I I.

1761. **B**ELLISLE taken by the English.
1762. **W**AR declared against Spain.
- **M**ARTINICO and Guadaloupe taken from the French.
- Manilla and Havanna taken from the Spaniards.
1763. **P**EACE proclaimed between England, France, and Spain.
1764. **T**HE longitude found by **HARRISON'S** Time-piece.
1765. **O**TAHEITE, or **G**EORGE the third's island discovered by captain **W**ALLIS.
- **T**HE sovereignty of the Isle of Man annexed to Great Britain.
1768. **T**HE royal academy of painting incorporated.
- **E**LECTRICITY of the Aurora Borealis discovered.
1769. **S**TRATFORD jubilee held in honour of **S**HAKESPEAR.

1770. BLACKFRIARS bridge finished.
1772. NEGROES in England adjudged free.
1773. NAVAL Review at Portsmouth by his majesty.
- THE Jesuit's order abolished.
1774. CIVIL war began in America.
- SOCIETY to recover drowned persons constituted.
1778. WAR declared against France.
- PONDICHERRY taken from the French.
- THE earl of CHATHAM died,
1779. IRELAND admitted to a free trade.
1780. THE Spanish fleet defeated and their admiral taken by admiral RODNEY.
- RIOTS in London which did 200,000l. damage.
- CHARLESTOWN in South Carolina surrendered to GEORGE III.
1781. HYDER ALLEY defeated twice by Sir EYRE COOTE.
- LORD GEORGE GORDON tried for high treason and acquitted.

1782. **BATAVIA** taken by the English.
- **GIBRALTAR** saved from the joint attack of the French and Spaniards, by general **ELLIOTT**.
- **GIBRALTAR** relieved by lord **HOWE**, with a squadron of 33 ships, before the combined fleets of France and Spain consisting of 47.
- **THE** French fleet defeated in the West Indies, and **COUNT DE GRASSE**, their admiral, taken by admiral **RODNEY**.
1783. **GREAT** Britain declared America independent.
1784. **THE** great seal stolen from the lord Chancellor.
- Mail-coaches established by **JOHN PALMER, Esq.**
1785. **JOURNEYS** in the air performed by Air Balloons
1786. **HIS MAJESTY** attempted to be assassinated by **MARGARET NICHOLSON**.
1787. A treaty of commerce and navigation concluded with France.
- **PIETY** and virtue promoted by the royal proclamation.
1788. **WARREN HASTINGS'S** tryal commenced.

1788. COMMERCE rendered more extensive than ever was known.

— THE national debt began to be reduced.

— PEACE established throughout the British Empire.

PROVIDENCE has blest their present Majesties with the royal progeny born in the following periods :

George, prince of Wales born,	—	12 Aug. 1762.
Prince Frederick, bishop of Osnaburgh,		16 Aug. 1763.
Prince William Henry,	— —	21 Aug. 1765.
Princess Charlotte, princess royal,		29 Sept. 1766.
Prince Edward,	— —	2 Nov. 1767.
Princess Augusta-Sophia,	—	8 Nov. 1768.
Princess Elizabeth,	— —	22 May, 1770.
Prince earnest-Augustus,	—	5 June, 1777.
Prince Augustus-Frederick,	—	27 Jan. 1773.
Prince Adolphus-Frederick,	—	24 Feb. 1774.
Princess Mary.	— —	25 April, 1776.
Princess Sophia,	— —	3 Nov. 1777.
Princess Amelia,	— —	7 Aug. 1783.

THE

THE QUEEN.



THIS amiable and distinguished personage was the princess CHARLOTTE, of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz, the youngest sister of ADOLPHUS-FREDERICK, the fourth, duke of Mecklenburgh. She was born May 29, 1744.

BEING a princess of every amiable virtue and estimable endowment, and having descended from a line
of

of ancestors who had evinced their attachment to the Protestant religion, and to the BRUNSWICK family, she was honoured with the choice of our present gracious king of Great Britain, GEORGE III. as his queen and consort.

ARRIVING in England under the escort of the earl of HARCOURT and lord ANSON, she was received on the 7th of September 1761, in a most honourable and affectionate manner by her intended royal spouse and sovereign. At nine o'clock the same evening, she had the happiness of seeing herself the bride of England's monarch. Fifteen days after, the royal pair were crowned with that splendor and magnificence worthy the royalty of so distinguished an empire.

BEING thus possessed of every honour and happiness the king and his country could bestow, she gained the affections of all by her affable demeanor, prudent conduct, condescending manners, and elegant accomplishments.

plishments. Every heart glowed with love, and every tongue refounded the praise of her distinguished character. In her, the distressed, helpless orphan found an asylum.*—In her, the young unfortunate deluded female, when reclaimed, found a patroness.†

WHEN female delicacy, for which the English ladies had been so justly celebrated, was made the general sacrifice of mistaken apprehensions in the married fair, queen CHARLOTTE evinced her native modesty

* THE following is copied from an inscription in the chapel of the asylum :

“ The first stone of this chapel was laid May 2, 1763,
“ by GEORGE HENEY, earl of Litchfield, and built
“ by the bounty of her gracious majesty queen
“ CHARLOTTE.”

† OUR most gracious queen CHARLOTTE, very early became a benefactor and patroness of that humane and laudable institution, the MAGDALEN HOSPITAL.

modesty by her eminent example in the choice of a female attendant on the birth of her illustrious offspring.

HER humanity was next exerted in favour of the unhappy culprit sentenced to be shot for deserting the service of his king and country, to whom he had devoted himself. Convinced that the punishment was too cruel and disgraceful, she exerted her intercession and obtained an alleviation of his punishment.

WE are sorry the limits of this work will not permit us to particularize more of the innumerable instances of her great prudence, liberality, humanity, and goodness. Suffice it, that our queen has, by her conjugal affection, her natural tenderness, her extensive benevolence, her patronage of genius, and her regal demeanour, rendered herself an exemplary pattern for every queen, wife, mother, and female to imitate.



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